

# Korea Today

PYONGYANG 6 1966







The Pyongyang Daily Items Factory turns out a variety of plastic goods

# Korea Today



FRONT COVER: Labour Hero Pak Soon Won (center) of the Pyongyang Electric Locomotive Factory. He is a veteran worker. He has many new devices to his credit, and does everything to help young workers raise their technical levels

*Photo by Choi Yung*

BACK COVER: Mt. Myohyang in early summer

*Photo by Kim Eun Joo*

INSIDE BACK COVER: Korean pottery

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## CONTENTS

Work and Life . . . . .	2
Economic Construction and Local Industry . . . . .	6
Indelible Crimes . . . . .	9
No More a Remote Village . . . . HAN BONG CHAN	11
The General and Children . . . . SHIM JONG WOON	14
Young Generation—Our Happiness and Future . . . . .	16
A Story About a Hero . . . . .	18
Japan's Death Merchants . . . . SONG MOO KYUNG	20
Twenty Days Among Dear Friends KIM CHANG JOON	21
Han Suk Bong and His Mother . . . . .	22
My Family . . . . . KIM DONG HI	23
"5 Year Slave Trade Plan" . . . . .	24
"The Onjung-ryung Ridge" . . . . YOON KI KEUN	29
On the Right Track (2) . . . . . JUNG CHANG YOON	30
This Is How Matters Stood . . . . KIM HYO SUK	34
Koryu and Its Neighbours . . . . RIM KWANG CHUL	37
My Friends in South Korea . . . . MOON YE BONG	38
The Folk Museum . . . . .	40
Korea's Successes Merit Admiration HELENE LEGRADI	42
U.S. "World Strategy" and Japan . . . . .	43
Hye Cho and His Travels . . . . DONG KEUN HOON	46
South Korean Workers Fighting U.S. Army . . . . .	48
Moranbong Hill . . . . .	50
A Tree from Height 1211 . . . . .	52
Stamps of Korea . . . . .	52

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# WORK AND LIFE

ON June 24 Korea will mark the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the labour law—a genuine democratic labour law to liberate our factory and office workers from colonial oppression and exploitation, improve the working and material conditions, and to guarantee them a new happy life.

In honor of the day we introduce to our readers the workers of the Pyongyang Silk Mill. The present article is written by assistant manager Kim Suk Doo of the mill.

Our silk mill, a modern mill, stands by the Daidong River that runs through the capital. Fruit trees and lovely gardens are everywhere in its wide compound.

Most of the workers and staff are women.

Before liberation the plant was run by a Japanese capitalist. Those were dark days for the workers, numerous Korean girls and women suffered here, and they were humiliated. No worker was allowed to step outside the compound of the mill, which was fenced with electric-charged high walls!

No wonder people called the mill "Pyongyang Prison No.2."

But with the country's liberation (August 15, 1945), the lot of the workers was radically changed. The state put the progressive labour law into effect guaranteeing them every democratic right—employment, education, recreation, and social insurance.

## Right to Learning

In the days of Japanese rule our workers could not have schooling. Then most of the workers of our mill had little schooling. But, today the educational level of our employees is that of middle school graduates or above.

Every condition is provided for the workers to study without leaving their jobs. The silk mill, like other factories, has schools. We have a textile school and a higher textile school, where the students are given a general education and textile skills. Then many spinners take the evening and correspondence courses of higher learning institutes.

The management sees to it that these "students" are secured with every condition for their studies. Even when those who take correspondence courses have to be away to attend the classes, they receive full wages. The factory even pays their traveling expenses.

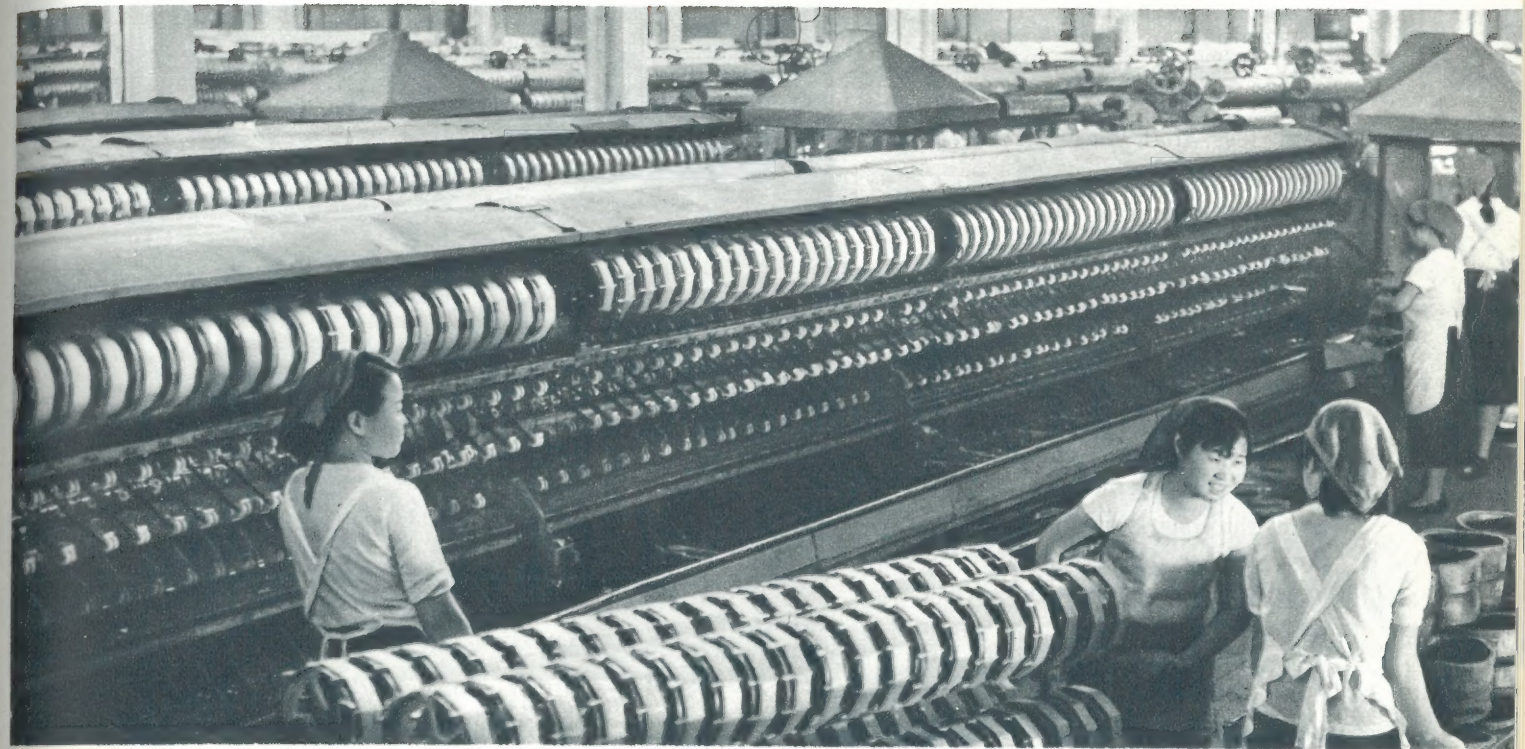
Besides, the plant maintains the system of passing-technique in which all our workers take part.

Thanks to the solicitude of the state and to their high zeal, the level of the workers has swiftly risen. The number of the graduates of the specialized schools and colleges is increasing rapidly. In 1960, 3.3 per cent of the total employees were college or specialized school graduates, but the figure went up 12.8 per cent in 1965, which means an increase in the number of engineers and technicians. 23 per cent of them are those who finished the evening and correspondence courses and passed the state qualifications examination.

The silk mill maintains a library, a movie hall, and a club-house. Hundreds of musical instruments are at the disposal of the workers. The library is always crowded; art performances are often given at the club-house. Sometimes our art circles perform at the theatres in Pyongyang and they are acclaimed always.

## The Right to Rest

Before liberation, our workers were forced to work 14-16 hours a day. But now an eight-hour day is in effect. Everyone enjoys a regular, paid vacation every year. Those who are



The automatized shop is always spick-and-span

engaged in the hazardous work are granted an additional leave of two weeks. Workers spend a pleasant time at rest homes at the state expense. The state, also, pays traveling expense for them. In the country there are special holiday homes for those who want to spend their vacations with their families. Also mothers with infants are entitled to a vacation specially designed for them.

A great number of our workers spend their vacations at the state-run holiday homes and sanatoria or at the sanatorium of the mill.

## Living Standard Improving

Like other workers, our spinners had led a miserable life under Japanese imperialist rule in the past. Hunger and poverty was their lot, and they were humiliated and exploited. They lived in crumbling huts. Then the dormitory of the mill was little different from prison.

But the picture is quite different now. Our workers do not worry about food, clothing, and housing.

In the past the Japanese exercised sharp

She is happy to receive a holiday home admission ticket





discrimination against nationality, sex, and age in paying wages. Women workers were paid less than half what the men got.

Today, however, there is no such thing. Everyone receives wages according to the quality and quantity of work one has done.

Modern houses built by the state are homes of workers. Even for the single, there are special apartments for them.

In the past, workers had to pay 30-50 per cent of their wages for rent, but now they pay only 3 per cent of their incomes for fine modern apartments and for electricity and water.



In the evening many workers study at the Higher Light Industrial School

The day is over



Rice, the staple food in Korea, is supplied by the state at a price next to nothing, and fuel is also provided by the state at a reasonable price.

Our factory has a day nursery and a kindergarten accommodating 800 and 350 children each. There are also a pediatrics ward with 30 beds and a week nursery. Altogether 74 nurses, 13 kindergarten teachers, and 5 doctors are connected with these. Meal and snack are supplied to children at the expenses of the state.

#### Safety Measures

The state appropriated a large sum of fund to provide every safety measure for the workers.

A particular emphasis was put on this matter when our mill was rebuilt after the war ended. Our plant is equipped with the modern ventilation system to prevent dampness and heat. Then it is designed in such a way that it gets enough sun, but not the direct sun.

Before liberation, the Japanese proprietor did hardly do any thing for improving the working conditions. They worked in a temperature

of 35°C and humidity of 85 per cent. Therefore, 80 per cent of the workers suffered arthritis. Then most of them had eczema and athlete's foot.

But now all these are a mere old story.

The manager of the mill pays much attention to installing safety measures and sanitation devices and preventing accidents. Besides, there is a section in charge of safety measures, the staff of which tell the workers about safety and check if every work shop is amply equipped with all necessary safety measures.

All the new-comers and those who come from other trade, take special courses in safety measures before starting to work. The state supplies the workers with uniforms and others needed for the work. Last year our plant gave out seventeen different kinds of such articles.

Those who work at the hazardous sections—boilers and transport—are supplied with a variety of nutritive foodstuffs at the state expense.

#### Social Insurance

In our country a subsidy is given to those factory and office workers who are incapacitated temporarily due to sickness, or injury, or who have to attend on the sick in the family. The subsidy varies according to the length of the service but it is about 70 per cent of one's wages.

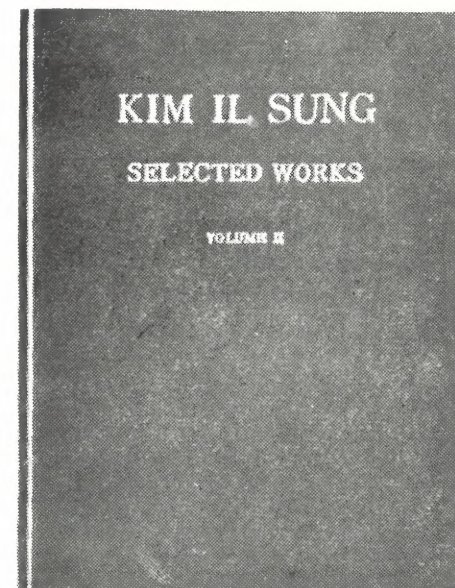
Women are entitled to take a 77-day maternity leave with pay. When a worker dies, the family is given a subsidy.

Those workers who reach the age of 60 (women 55 years) retire on pension. If one wishes to continue the work one is paid the wages plus the pension.

In 1965, the total amount of pension and subsidy our mill paid out to the workers was tantamount to the total yearly wages of 120 workers.

Free medical service has been in effect for some years in our country. Our factory has a clinic with 5 doctors and a maternity nurse to serve the employees of our mill.

### New Books



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# ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION

A great success has been achieved in constructing big factories side by side with medium- and small-scale local ones for the production of consumer goods.

Premier Kim Il Sung said: "Our experience shows that in the field of light industry, in view of its economic and technical peculiarities, it is, in general, rational to develop

large-scale factories side by side with medium- and small-scale ones, and that it is an effective way of accelerating the growth of the production of consumer goods and the development of industry as a whole in the underdeveloped countries to extensively set up, in particular, local factories of small scale with comparatively simple technique. The construction of local industry is also of great significance in developing all localities of the country evenly, and, in particular, in bringing industry closer to agriculture and gradually eliminating the distinctions between town and country."

Korea took over backward industries from Japanese imperialism. Especially, there was hardly any light industry to speak of, and even handicraft was ruined totally by

the Japanese imperialists. The division of the country made North Korea worse off so far as the light industry was concerned, because most of industrial plants were in the south. Then the economy as a whole was badly destroyed by the war launched by Washington. Under the circumstances, it was the most urgent task for the country to build up the light industry so as to satisfy the people's demand for daily items.

As the country started to build a new society, it paid great attention to building big factories, the backbone of light industry, and to strengthening the technical equipment. At the same time, efforts were directed to developing local industry.

During the postwar three-year plan period (1954-1956) and at the

A variety of grass goods are turned out



Some of the knitted goods which boast of a local color



# AND LOCAL INDUSTRY

beginning of the five-year plan which began in 1957, a number of government-run light industrial factories were built.

But the economic situation was such that the country could not keep putting on the stress on building such large-scale factories.

If we had depended only on large-scale factories for developing light industry, we could not guarantee the priority to the growth of heavy industry and the simultaneous growth of light industry as the basic line of economic construction called for, because the fund and resources were limited. And, if the country were to maintain the speedy development of light industry as the basic line of economic construction demands, 30-40 per cent

of the total investment in industry must go to light industry. But this would have hampered the priority development of heavy industry.

In such circumstances we developed extensively medium- and small-scale plants side by side with big ones so as to develop the production of consumer goods in the shortest time possible.

According to the resolution of the June (1958) Plenum of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, medium- and small-scale local factories were built by the nation-wide movement.

The entire working people built new factories and improved production facilities by tapping idle materials and equipment in local areas.

Everyone—functionaries of the local Party committees, government

employees, workers of the social organizations, and factory and office workers—devoted his all to this end. In the meantime the state helped them build plants to suit conditions of each district. Moreover, it saw to it that the state-run plants and

Local factories produce plastic goods, too



Liquors and soft drinks turned out by local industry





mills in the respective districts give material and technical assistance to the building of local industrial factories.

In few months after the Plenum, 1,063 local industrial plants were built and 91 per cent of them were put into operation. As a result, in 1958 local industries produced 37 per cent of gross value of the production of consumer goods; the figure rose to 39 per cent in 1959, then 59 per cent in 1963. And the range of goods extended rapidly.

So, local industry side by side with the central light industrial factories came to occupy a firm position in turning out consumer goods.

The state took measures for the rapid growth of local industry and for consolidating its material and technical foundation, and for improving its management.

That the local industry is built up along with the state-run industries was conducive to the building of the independent national economy and to the improvement in the people's living.

The rapid growth of local industry was an important factor not only in expanding the output of consumer goods, but also in accelerating reproduction as a whole.

Local industry was also a vehicle for guaranteeing the high speed and balance of reproduction, and it contributed greatly to building an independent national economy.

Accumulation is the principal source of socialist extended reproduction while the exploration of all potentialities being the other source.

The exploration of reserves of the national economy can be viewed from two angles. One is the full utilization of all the existing productive factors, the other being the mobilization of all such possible

factors. This will serve expanding the production without additional investments.

In the postwar years the establishment of the socialist economic foundations came to the fore. The government paid attention to mobilization of idle local reserves and those available in factories.

In few months after June 1958, some 32,000 idle machines and facilities were found, and plants with a total floor space of one million square metres were built in localities with materials found in those areas.

Local resources and materials were exploited and mobilized—in 1958, the value of the output with local resources and materials occupied 58.8 per cent of gross value of local industrial output, 60.5 per cent in 1959, and 62.5 per cent in 1960.

Such utilization of reserves increased rapidly the production of consumer goods, while giving a big saving to the state.

During the five-year plan (1957-1960) period, the volume of investment in capital construction in heavy industry covered 82.6 per cent, whereas the figure was 81.1 per cent in the three-year plan period; then investment in light industry

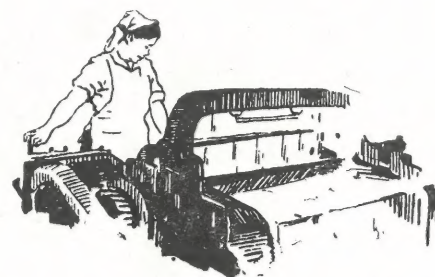
reduced 1.5 per cent. And the proportion of production of means of production to that of consumer goods was 37.7 against 34.9 per cent in the five-year plan period, whereas the figures were 59.4 against 28 per cent in the three-year plan period.

The growing local industry accompanied the balanced division of labour and an increase in the number of workers in the local areas. At the same time, it raised the technical and managerial level of local cadres.

Many of the workers in local industry are housewives. The work is suitable to women workers, as it is light and they don't have to travel far to go to work. It will also free the women from housework as more foodstuffs and daily necessities are produced in localities.

It plays an important role in strengthening relations between industry and agriculture and accelerating rural construction, eliminating the distinctions between town and country.

Local industry plants were built where there had been little or no industry, which meant a more balanced distribution of industrial plants and a well co-ordinated growth of local economies.



# INDELIBLE CRIMES

ALREADY 16 years have passed since the United States launched the war against Korea. The U.S. war of aggression on Korea exposed once again to the full what Washington stands for.

The U.S. aggressors had prepared for the aggressive war in Korea ever since they set foot in South Korea after World War II.

Defining Korea as the No. 1 strategical base for aggression on the Far East and the Continent of Asia, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff planned to occupy the other half of Korea, north of 38th parallel, as soon as possible. (New York Journal-American, September 1947)

To this end, they reinforced their occupation army in South Korea, built military bases on an extensive scale, and increased the strength of the South Korean puppet army.

On June 25, 1950, the U.S. unleashed its war of aggression against North Korea.

Having started the surprise attacks on North Korea, the U.S. brought in for the war one third of its army, one fifth of its air force, and the main part of its navy in addition to Syngman Rhee's puppet army.

Then they dragged in also mercenaries from 15 of its satellite countries.

The U.S. clamoured that it would conquer Korea at a stroke. But Washington failed to see one thing. They failed to see that the Korean People's Army was the one that has inherited the indomitable revolutionary spirit of the anti-Japanese guerrillas who were seasoned in the long, arduous struggle against imperialism. They also failed to see the inexhaustible strength of the people who holding their fate in their hands have started to build a new life.

When the country was confronted with the great danger, the entire Korean people displayed peerless courage and mass heroism both on the front and in the rear. Their bold and prompt plans and action defeated the technical superiority of the enemy and safeguarded the land of theirs.

Greatly surprised and confused in the face of the heroic struggle of the Korean people, the American aggressors used the scorched-earth tactics in an attempt to bring the Korean people to their knees. They used in the Korean war eleven times as much war supplies as they had used during the Pacific War, and they

On June 18, 1950, John Foster Dulles, accompanied by head of the U.S. military advisory group Roberts, South Korean Defence Minister Sin Sung Mo, chief of the General Staff of the ROK Army Chai Byung Duk, and U.S. Ambassador to Seoul Muccio, inspected military installations along the 38th Parallel for the war against North Korea





carried out indiscriminate bombings. They demolished factories, schools, hospitals, houses, and diabolically slaughtered countless women and children. Still worse. They even used poison gas and employed without hesitation the bacteriological warfare on a large scale, violating all international conventions.

No wonder a French journalist wrote, "The greatest crime of the 20th century was committed in Korea by the U.S. imperialists."

Yet no outrages of Washington could subdue the Korean people who rose up in the life-and-death struggle against the aggressors.

In face of the heroic resistance of the Korean people the adventurous scheme of U.S. aggression was smashed to pieces and the myth about U.S. "invincibility" was thoroughly shattered. In the Korean war the United States suffered the most shameful defeat in its history of aggression and had to kneel down before the Korean people.

The three-year war in Korea once again made the whole world see the ferocity and bestiality of American aggressors.

Attempts were made to cover up the fact that it was none other than the U.S. imperialists who started the war. Then they carried out their armed intervention under the signboard of "U.N." and conducted the criminal war of aggression under the name of "U.N. forces."

Consequently, in the Korean war the United Nations was used as a shield for U.S. to cover up its aggression, and U.N. became one of the belligerents. Thus, its prestige fell to the ground.

The Washington rulers should draw a lesson from the Korean war in which they suffered a crushing defeat, militarily, politically, and morally.

However, developments show that the U.S. is still dead set in its reckless war policy and that it is the sworn enemy of the people of the world, disturbing the world peace.

Everywhere in the world—in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, the Congo (L), the Dominican Republic—they are shamelessly waging war and aggression with the same tactics as they had employed in the Korean war.

Today, the American aggressors, driven into a tight corner by repeated defeats in the war in Vietnam, are plotting to bring more troops to South Vietnam.

However, the Yankees are dealt with telling blows everywhere at the hands of the heroic Vietnamese people, who are enjoying the full support of the peace-loving people of the world. U.S. position in Vietnam is only getting worse.

But, blind to the current of the history, the war-maniacs of Washington are working like mad to escalate the war in Vietnam. Now they are trying to engulf Laos and Cambodia in the war.

In the meantime, following their policy for "Let Asians fight Asians," they are instigating their puppets in Asia—South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, the Philippines, etc.—to send troops to South Vietnam. They are re-arming Japanese militarism, with a view to using it in their aggression. At the same time, with their war escalation in Vietnam, the Yankee aggressors are running amuck in preparing another war of aggression in the Far East.

In South Korea the U.S. violating the Armistice Agreement keeps on reinforcing its armed forces and the South Korean puppet army. They keep bringing new-type weapons into South Korea while expanding the military establishments on a big scale. Besides, having cooked up the "South Korea-Japan treaty", they are now attempting to set up an aggressive "north-east Asia military alliance".

All this shows clearly that the U.S. imperialists are the most vicious enemy of the world people, the architect of aggression and war, and the peace wrecker.

The more wilder become the Washington rulers in aggression and war provocations, the more resolutely fight back the people the world over.

The Solidarity Conference of the tri-continental peoples held in Havana in January this year called for a "Month of Solidarity with the Korean People" from June 25, the day when the U.S. imperialists launched the aggressive war against Korea, to July 27, the day of the signing of the Armistice Agreement. Since then the voice is rising with a greater force against the U.S. war policy, demanding the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea.

The struggle of the Asian, African, and Latin American peoples against U.S. imperialism is getting more intense. And their solidarity is being cemented as never before.

Ready to repulse U.S. aggression, the people of North Korea are doubling their efforts to realize the country's peaceful unification and successfully build socialism in North Korea.

The South Korean people, too, are intensifying their struggle against U.S. colonial rule and the traitorous Pak Jung Hi clique.

If the U.S. imperialists ignite another war in Korea ignoring their bitter experience in the Korean war, they would be made to pay a thousandfold for their crimes. And it will only expedite their final doom.



High-class cloths are produced with raw materials available in the county

**B**YUKDONG is on the northeastern tip of Korea, at the foot of Miraibong Peak, some 1,400 metres above the sea-level.

It is some 500 li from Sineuijoo, the provincial seat, and the village itself is some 200 li off the railway station. Byukdong is hemmed in all sides by high mountains and cliffs. Then there are deep valleys.

The whole county is so mountainous. As a matter of fact, 92 per cent of the entire area of Byukdong County are high mountain ranges while only some 6 per cent is cultivated.

For centuries, until the country's liberation, people there lived off the meagre land. It was a remote place.

But little attention was paid to the surrounding mountains where a variety of wild fruits—some 120 kinds all told—in addition to wild vegetables, medicinal herbs flourish. To name a few, there are wild grapes, the fruit of *Actinidia arguta*, bell flower, then fiber crops, and oil crops.

Yet, in days gone-by, all these treasures of the

# No More a Remote Village

HAN BONG CHAN

mountains were left to go rotten, doing little good to the people.

It was only after the country's liberation that the people here began to make the mountains serve them.

In this respect the year 1958 was a memorable one.

That year the whole nation took up the question of building local industries that could be fed with raw materials to be secured in respective localities.

Byukdong was no exception. The people built plants which could process some 1,200 to 1,500 tons of wild fruits and vegetables a year.

These plants built without the investment of government funds, were of weighty significance for the growth of the economy, the improvement of the people's living, and for the well-balanced advancement of the whole country.

## FROM THE TRIFLE

It was in September, 1958 that the sign "Byukdong Combined Plant" went up in Byukdong. The plant



site was a small room of a village house. This was the first local industrial plant in the county.

The signboard bore a big name of "plant" but all it had were a spinning wheel and a hand-loom for textile and a big kettle and a pair of mill-stones for food processing!

Before long another plant was started. This time a ceramic plant.

Government and office workers helped the township people finish the food processing factory which had been started some time ago. It was a building with a floor space of 1,000 square metres. And the people were enthusiastic. Every one—young and old, men and women—refused to stay home. So, in two months, they had a brand-new food factory.

And this emboldened the people. Soon after there rose a series of plants—textile, farm implements, paper, furniture, then a corn processing plant. The total floor space of these six plants was 6,000 square metres.

In building these plants the people secured only cement from the state while all the other materials were what they found in and around their township.

Only a year after the small room "combined plant" appeared, these new ones came into being in Byukdong.

While building these plants, the people directed much attention to the question of equipping them.

Take the case of the textile plant, for instance.

It dispatched five workers to textile mills in Sinuijoo, Nyungbyun, Koosung, and other places to learn about textile skills. Then the plant secured some 30 looms and 288 carding machines from various sources—these were what you call "idle" equipment, that is, they had not been put to use.

Some of them needed repair, then parts were missing from some. The workers made them work, and manufactured themselves the missing parts. But there were times when leading workers had to travel to steel mills or machine-making factories to get parts.

Before long the textile plant which started with a spinning wheel and a hand-loom was equipped with 104 of 17 different textile machines.

All the others, too—the foodstuffs plants, furniture plant, paper mill, farming tools plant, corn processing plant—changed their looks in no time.

Then the number of workers swelled rapidly, most of them were unexperienced housewives. The factory management dispatched them to various government-run big factories where they could learn modern techniques. Then skilled workers were invited to teach the workers.

Already by this time the textile factory foresaw that it would have a new building installed with modern equipment. They procured 8 power-driven looms and began to train weavers to be able to handle them.

In the meantime those who had gone to central

industrial factories returned. And centered around these people special classes were held to popularize what they had learned among all the workers. The classes were held twice a week.

At the same time, the skilled workers helped unskilled ones individually. All this served to make the workers learn techniques speedily. So, by the time when the power-driven looms were installed in the plant, every one knew how to handle them.

The story was the same with other plants. Today the grade of the workers' skill rose considerably, average 2 grades higher than in 1960. Many have earned the qualifications of technician.

The people of Byukdong built the plants by themselves, they are running those plants on their own, they are turning out a host of things that will enrich their life.

### MUCH BENEFIT

From the first day when they built the local industrial plants, the people began to get benefits.

Some hundred and more kinds of wild fruits, tree bark, lumber—there was nothing left, unlike in the past, in the mountains to get spoiled. But everything became useful.

Every year the people collected some 1,000 tons of wild fruits to process. And factories turned out products to meet the needs of the local people. Gradually the range of products got expanded, too.

In this way the food plant in 1960 produced 11 kinds of products—soft drinks, edible oils, etc.

From the textile mill came different kinds of fabrics—all the raw materials were from the mountains where there grew different sorts of fibre crops. Then trees gave paper and a variety of furniture.

By 1963 the country turned out some 150 sorts of products, and the volume of output increased 1.5 times over 1960. But, it must be admitted, there was much yet to be desired so far as the quality was concerned. Then there could be a greater variety of goods, too. For instance, among the many kinds of fabrics, only three were printed ones.

With the leaping local industries, the centuries-old poverty disappeared for good from the county. The people, now more enthusiastic than ever, diligently worked on. They wanted to expand the range of goods and improve the quality.

To this end, they visited government-run big factories; they wanted to see for themselves how things were done in those places. They also organized technical study groups in their own plant. In this way, they learned from and helped each other. And, whenever there rose some knotty technical problems, they put their brains together and solved them collectively.

Now the drive for technical innovation was on. Ryoo Myung Ok of the textile mill visited big fac-

tories in Nyungbyun, Bakchun, and in other places. Upon returning, she improved the looms on her own to add 18 different kinds of printed goods to the list of their products.

The foodstuffs plant refused to be behind.

Thanks to the enormous help of the local people and to the great technical assistance rendered by the government-run factories in the county, first of all, they expanded the plant installed with equipment for mechanization. By 1965 they mechanized 90-98 per cent of the work, the output value rising 158 per cent. And there was a marked improvement in quality, too.

Last year, more than 80 per cent of their products were sorted as top grade. Particularly, liquor Hwangkeumsan (Golden Mountains), besides printed goods and dressers of the county are well received everywhere. The liquor is even being exported. It must be said, now the county has more than enough and it sends its products, particularly soft drinks, liquors, fabrics, and paper, to different parts of the country.

All this brought radical changes in the people's living.

Until they started local industrial plants, the county had to receive from the state a great amount of fund every year to run the county. But, when the people had the plants started, they could give the state a saving of nearly as much fund as they used to get from it.

And the people's life as a whole improved steadily. All the plants depend on the peasants who collect things to be processed and sell their produce. This means bigger incomes for them. Compared with 1959, the incomes of every family rose on the average 3.1 times in 1965. Of course, such growth, at least part of it, was accountable to the advancing agriculture, but most of it was from the growing local industries.

Then factory and office workers in the county, too, boosted their earnings. Most of the housewives began to work, and this naturally increased the family incomes—as much as 3 times in 1965 over 1959.

The rapidly expanding local industries, the improving material conditions of the county population, and the growing traffic to accommodate movements of the ever increasing volume of products—the county was no more of the county hidden and lost among the deep mountains.

In the past the county was one of peasants. But now the number of workers keeps growing. Then the local industry raised the position and role of women in society. Today, 75.2 per cent of the total workers in the county are women, who are managers, workteam leaders, workers. Many of them are technicians. Some 44 per cent of the managerial workers are women.

An Hyung Ja is manager of the textile plant. She was a woman of 20 or so at the time of liberation. She was illiterate, too, then. Li Sook Sin, Li Ji Ok

and many others were just housewives. But now they are skilled workers to handle ably complex machines. They are deputies to people's assemblies of the township and the county.

Outdated ideas and way of life have disappeared. Instead, the machine civilization of the city and the advanced method of industrial management have come to this once remote mountain township. Among the people the spirit of collectivism is becoming more apparent.

In the county seat many new offices and stores came into being with the appearance of local industries. Then there are nurseries, kindergartens, laundries, club houses, cinemas, and many service and welfare establishments. Then regular bus services to various villages are functioning. The buildings of the Cultural Hall, the well-stacked library, the county radio station, the county hospital, the secondary agricultural school along with the local industrial factories present a picture of city in this region deep among the mountains.

More plants are rising. Roads run in all directions. Then there are modern houses everywhere. Who would say now Byukdong is a village of remote place hidden in the mountains? A city has come to this off-the-track village.

At a grazing ground





# The General and Children

SHIM JONG WOON

I was one day in late August, 1947. Then I was in charge of the students and pupils section at the Central Committee of the Democratic Youth League. That day I just returned to Pyongyang after camping in Mt. Keumgang with more than 100 model Young Pioneer members from various parts of the country. Now they were on their way home.

Thirteen children came to my house to stay for a while as there was yet much time before their train.

No sooner had they put down their packages than they badgered me: I should take them to General Kim Il Sung.

It was not the first time that they made such a request. During the 15 days of camping in Mt. Keumgang they so asked several times a day. Particularly, in the homeward train, they coaxed me to take them to the General as soon as we arrive in Pyongyang.

A 13-year-old boy who came from Changsung, with tears in his eyes, pleaded with me. "Please take us to the General!"

All I could do was just to try to humor them somehow. I thought. How can the General who is so busy with affairs of the state spare the time to receive the children?

"Sir, we want to see the General, even if it is from distance!"

The children, taking me by the hands, even stamped their feet. I could fully understand their hearts.

They had been at Mt. Keumgang for the first time in their life thanks to the warm solicitude of the General. And their hearts were filled with great excitement and endless gratitude.

So I could not say very well a flat "no" to them.

Then it occurred to me. It was Saturday. And on Saturdays there is a lecture in the Party Central Committee and the General attends it sometimes. Perhaps I can make them catch a view of him from distance as they wish. I brought them to the Party Central Committee. The children in white summer uniforms and mountain climber's caps, stepped in fine array singing.

As the children reached the street in front of the building of the Party Central Commit-

tee, I ordered them to line up facing the front gate.

We waited there for a while, not knowing if we would be able to see him.

Many cars passed through the front gate. Each time a car passed, the children asked me if it was the General's car. When I answered "no," they looked so disappointed. At last the General's car was seen coming. Suppressing my excited heart, I said to them in a low voice the General's car was coming. They so excited kept watching the approaching car.

Presently, the car went through the front gate of the building of the Party Central Committee. And the children had a glimpse of him.

Having seen the General whom they love and respect so much, the children were running towards the middle of the street on which the General's car had just passed. They even forgot their promise that they would keep the ranks. I hurriedly made them come back to one side of the street. Now I told them we should go back since we saw the General even if it was from distance.

However, it seemed they were not in a mood to leave, but kept looking in the direction of the office building.

We saw an officer come out, who asked me where the children were from and what they were doing. I told him everything. Then the officer with a smile hurriedly went through the front gate.

After a while, a cadre came out and said: "The General said he would receive you." It was so unexpected that I was at a loss. The children shouted for joy. Some even jumped round taking each other's hands.

We followed the cadre into the building. When I and the children reached the General's office, we saw him waiting for us at the door. Taking the children by the hand one by one, the General patted everyone on the head, saying: "Welcome children! Come in!"

Looking at the children with his affectionate eyes, the General asked them to sit down. The children took their seats.

The General began to ask the children, starting from the boy sitting in the first row.

"Well, where do you come from? And what's

your name?" The General asked: "How old are you? What's your father?" "How many are there in your family?"

The General asked in detail about their families. The children all answered him in a lively and polite manner.

Now the General asked the little kid sitting at the end:

"Where are you from?"

"I'm from Changsung, sir!"

"What is your father doing?"

"He's a peasant."

The little kid answered in a solid voice unbecoming to his small frame.

"So you're from Changsung?"

Evidently, the General was wrapped in thoughts. He tapped lightly on the table with the back side of his right hand. After a while, he said:

"Before liberation, when we waged the partisan struggle we had been to Changsung, too. Salt was a rarity then. Well, when did your family get salt?"

"I think it was in March, sir. And I heard that salt was to come in June. But it hadn't arrived when I left home for the camping."

The General, having heard the boy's answer, took out a memo-book from his pocket and jotted down something.

Then he took up the receiver and rang up the Industrial Department and the Department of Transport to say that more salt should be sent to Changsung County. I realized once again how much he was concerned about the people's welfare.

Having put back the memo-book and pencil into his pocket, the General, his face beaming, swept an affectionate gaze at the children. Then he said.

"Well, did you have a good time at Mt. Keumgang?"

"Yes, we did, sir."

"What did you see?"

"We saw the Kooryong Falls... Then Manmool-sang, too."

"Sounds like you had a wonderful time."

The children answered in a lively manner.

The General's eyes were on the children who excitedly told him about what they had seen.

"Now, suppose, you children sing for me. How about it?"

At his words, all the children sprang on their feet. A girl from Chosan County stepped forward and led the children in singing. And they sang in full spirit.

When the children finished the singing, the General applauded and praised them highly.

Presently, he looked at his wrist-watch and said: "By now the lecture should be over, let's go and watch the movies." Then he called in

his aide to tell him that he should prepare a few films. The children, looking at each other, were beside themselves with joy.

"Now, let's go and see the films." The General got up from his seat and walked into the meeting hall, taking the children with him.

The General seated the children by him and, patting them on the head, chatted with them now and then. I was sitting in the back row. I could not shift my eyes from the General, who, surrounded by the children, was showing a parental love to them. I saw little of the films.

The film-showing was over. Now it's time for the children to part with the General.

However, the children did not want to say good-bye to the General.

He, too, seemed reluctant to see them go.

He shook hands with every one of them, then walked to the door to send them off. And standing there a long time, he waved his hand.

Our hearts leaping with great emotions, we came out of the building of the Party Central Committee. Murmuring to each other, the children all boasted of the great excitement they just had.

"I watched the film in his embrace."

"The films were more interesting as General Kim Il Sung narrated for us."

That night the Young Pioneer members did not sleep till late writing down in the diary their thoughts about seeing the General. They wrote more than what they had done during the 15 days of camping in Mt. Keumgang.

Not long after the Young Pioneer members left Pyongyang for their home, I received letters from them. Some of them were most moving.

The letter from the little kid from Changsung said that the salt which was sent by the General came there, and the people were moved to tears by his great solicitude.

I shouted in my mind to the Young Pioneer members who had gone home, nay, to all the children of the country:

"You are living in a wonderful era. Thanks to his solicitude your future is bright and boundless."

\* \* \*

Many years have gone since then. Now the Young Pioneer members have grown up, all around thirty now.

I do not know where they are working and what they are doing now.

But I am quite sure that everyone of them who grew up under the great solicitude of Premier Kim Il Sung, is taking the lead in everything as a faithful worker of the Party, fighting devotedly for the Party and revolution.

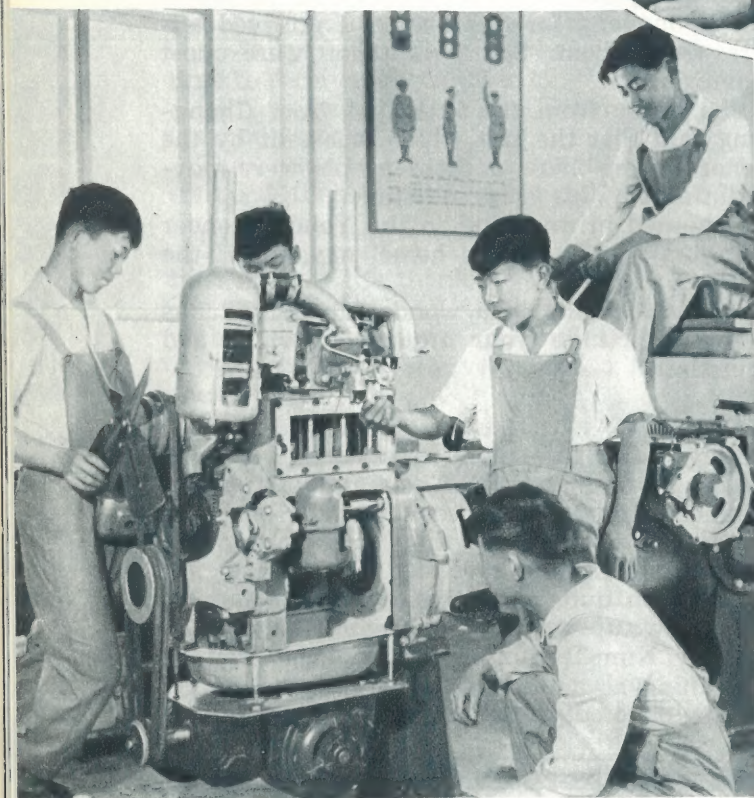




Happy children (at the Pyongyang Children's Palace)

\* \* \*

The Children's Palace has rooms for various activities of the children



# YOUNG GENERATION—OUR HAPPINESS AND FUTURE

**T**HE children are our hope and future. One cannot speak of the prosperity and future of the country without mentioning the children. The



Children's department store in Pyongyang



state, therefore, has spared nothing for the welfare of the children.

In all parts of the country are to be found establishments and facilities for the promotion of the children's health and for their education.

In towns, on co-op farms, in

Children's Park is always a scene of merriment



The Children's Palace, Kaesong near the Military Demarcation Line

fishing villages and mountain hamlets are day nurseries, kindergartens, and schools.

Then there are palaces, clubs, libraries, parks, camping grounds, and hospitals for children.

Seven-Year compulsory middle school education came into being several years ago, and a nine-year compulsory technical education will be enforced in the not-distant future.

At schools of all levels boys and girls study at the expenses of state, and they are being brought up into competent and able workers possessing knowledge, virtue, and a sound body.

With great joy the children of the land are marking the June 1—International Children's Day, and June 6—the birthday of the Korean Young Pioneers,—and there will be many colourful events that day.

At the reading-room of the Children's Palace, Pyongyang



At a children's barber shop





# A Story About a Hero

YOON KWANG SUP

Early in July, 1952.

Guard Regiment 86 was fighting a fierce battle in the areas of Mt. Wolmi.

Then 19-year-old Kim Myung Je of the 1st Platoon, 2nd Company, 1st Battalion, and a Democratic Youth League member, was a fresh soldier who had enlisted six months ago.

Now the battle for Height 351 was on hand, he was drilling—how to approach the enemy's pillbox, how to throw hand-grenade, how to use the bayonet, etc.

Height 351 was a point of strategical importance. Should the enemy lose this hill, they would have to withdraw far southward. And the enemy knew it, too. They had reinforced the hill in these ten months; many pillboxes were built, barbed wires went around the heights, and mines were laid. From this hill, the enemy desperately tried to drive out our troops behind Mt. Wolmi.

One day an order came down. The unit of the People's Army was to storm Height 351.

Our men were in high spirits. Each of them told himself: I should be the first to hoist the national flag on the hill. I would place the banner of the Model Company on the crest before all others.

Before the assault, a meeting of Democratic Youth League members was held, at which Myung Je persisted that he be included in the team to be sent out to destroy the enemy's pillboxes. Jo Eul Je and others, too, insisted that they should be sent to perform the difficult tasks.

After the meeting, Myung Je was ordered to lead the destroyers' team of the 1st platoon.

The night fell.

The 1st platoon marched in the left wing of the company. Having been terror-stricken at the repeated assaults of our men, the enemy often fired warning shots and sent up star shells. But it made only things easier for our soldiers and they moved on. Myung Je and his men reached the planned position quietly and waited for the signal. Our guns kept spitting fire some time before the order for charge came. The storming party dashed up the hill in one breath. But, when they reached the waist of the hill they found wire-entanglements barring their way.

Flare-bombs rose from all directions, and bullets showered upon them. Things were urgent! What would happen, if the advance stops? At this juncture, Sin In Soo of the engineer company threw himself over the entanglements and shouted to other men.

"I'm the ladder. Go on!"

Now Myung Je who stood by him spotted two enemy pillboxes spitting fire. With grenades ready in hands, he stepped over the "breach" Sin had just made.

Other men followed his suit and went over the obstacle.

In the rain of bullets the storming party dashed toward an enemy pillbox.

Some seconds later. With deafening explosions the pillbox was blown up. Next moment, the soldiers found Myung Je jumping to another pillbox. Then another explosion—the second pillbox was silenced.

"Hurrah" shook the hill, and our men kept moving on.

Now they reached a steep slope, it was almost an open place. Suddenly from no place three enemy machine guns opened up. Unless the guns were stopped, could no one advance.

Without a moment's delay Myung Je ordered his men to lure the enemy's guns to the right. And he climbed up the slope from the left toward the enemy position. Luckily the enemy were on a cliff, so he, unnoticed, could approach them from behind.

The enemy soldiers kept firing. Two hand-grenades fell on them.

Now the enemy guns were silent.

Myung Je dashed to another enemy position on the right, while his men covered him with their sub-machine guns.

Thus, five pillboxes were blown up by Myung Je, and an opening was made for his company to advance.

At last the company seized the hill the enemy called "impregnable." The national flag was hoisted on the crest. Cries of triumph rang out.

Myung Je displaying heroism, made distinguished services in defence of the hill, too.

By dawn the enemy sent one battalion after an-

other in an attempt to regain the hill before our men could consolidate their gains. There were repeated charges on the hill.

"Defend the heights of the country to the last" was the slogan of our men. They gave a blood-bath to the on-coming enemy.

Another enemy battalion began a fierce attack. It was their 25th.

The distance between the defenders and the enemy became narrower, the hill was enveloped in powder smoke and dust to block one's vision.

At the moment Myung Je was defending a pass on the southern slope of the hill. It was a tough going because the enemy had reinforcements.

The fate of the hill hung by a thread.

Myung Je threw hand-grenades on the enemy.

Enemy bullets landed in his shoulder and arm. The enemy were stubborn, they kept coming on. Their bloodthirsty faces loomed before him. He jumped on them. His bayonet fell four. When he threw hand-grenades at the enemy climbing up the slope, something hit him on the waist and he fell. Pak Myung Soo who had been fighting to his right hurried to him.

In front of the trench were many bodies and broken rifles. Myung Soo lifted in his arms Myung Je from

the bottom of the trench. He thought Myung Je should be sent to the hospital. The word "hospital" made Myung Je come round to himself. He could hear the enemy still climbing up. He managed to stand up. He staggered out of the trench to face the on-coming enemy.

Myung Soo came up to Myung Je who was fighting a desperate fight with the enemy. It was a fierce battle. Just at that moment our heavy machine guns on the right slope of the hill began to spit fire. Sub-machine guns opened up, too. They knew the counter-attack started!

Myung Je lost his father early in his childhood. His mother and he had gone through a lot. After the country's liberation his mother was given land. Then their life became plentiful. Even Myung Je could attend school.

Myung Je often told his comrades-in-arms what his mother said to him when he left home for the front. "Until you finish off all the enemy men who are trying to take away our happiness that Premier Kim Il Sung has given to us, I won't expect you home."

His mother's words made him fight heroically against the enemy to the last for the country.





# JAPAN'S DEATH MERCHANTS

SONG MOO KYUNG

All civilized minds are shocked at U.S. savagery in Vietnam. The American aggressors are burning cities and villages of Vietnam with napalm bombs, but few know that 92 per cent of the napalm bombs that they are using in Vietnam are made in Japan.

The Fuji Industries of Japan, one of napalm producers which piled up super profits during the American-ignited Korean War (June, 1950—July, 1953), is again the main supplier of napalms to the Americans in South Vietnam.

In the Korean War, the Japanese monopolists were given huge contracts by the U.S. aggressors to the cool tune of 2,200,000,000 dollars. Thus, the Japanese monopolists, particularly munition tycoons, were revived by Washington. The Japanese monopolies called the Korean War kamikaze (a divine wind) because it gave a shot in the arm of the limping Japanese economy. Now, the Japanese death merchants are jubilant over the dirty U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam. To them it is another heaven-sent kamikaze. Many are hearing the jingling of American dollars. And a big competition is on to send more war supplies to Vietnam—napalm, ammunition, guns, army trucks, communication instruments, uniforms, boots, provisions, drugs and medicines, etc., etc.

Keeping pace with the war escalation policy of Washington in Vietnam, war production in Japan is also escalating. For instance, the Toyoda motor company, the biggest automobile maker of Japan, sold 4,679 army trucks to the U.S. aggressors in the Korean War. Now the same Toyoda in the first six months of 1965 supplied the U.S.

aggressors in South Vietnam with trucks worth of 876,000,000 yen; the sale was only 83,000,000 yen in the whole year 1964. In short, the amount increased 20 times.

Everything is sacred and holy if it brings money as far as the Japanese monopolies are concerned. They know it is against international law, but they produce poison gas and other noxious chemicals for the U.S. imperialists to be used in Vietnam. Thus, they have become an accomplice of American war-maniacs in massacring the peaceful inhabitants of South Vietnam.

The Japanese munition producers are also supplying arms to U.S. puppets and satellites in Asia in addition to the Americans in Vietnam. The Howa Industries, for instance, one of the Japanese rifle and machine-gun makers, has sup-

Machineguns produced in Japan



plied already 5,000 automatic rifles to Thai army, another U.S. puppet in Asia, that invade the Cambodian territory frequently. The Japanese firm is to send 35,000 more guns to Thailand. Then the Fuji and other aeroplane manufactures are to sell more military planes to countries of Southeast Asia.

Thus, to all intents and purposes, Japan is an arsenal for U.S. aggression on Asia and the puppet armies of Washington. The Japanese monopolists are exporting munition factories and installations. Already in South Vietnam they are constructing harbors, bridges, and electric power stations. Back in 1957 the Tsukamoto Industries of Japan built an ammunition factory valued at 342,000,000 yen for the South Vietnam puppets.

Under the label of "reparations" for World War II the Japanese monopolies are sending war installations and materials to Southeast Asia. Under the agreement reached between the Sato government of Japan and the Philippines, Japan will build an ammunition plant as reparations in the Philippines. Now, the Okuma Iron Works is busy shipping installations for the projected plant. The volume of Japanese weapons going to the Philippines keeps growing. Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos disclosed early this year that his country is planning to import more modern weapons from Japan as reparations in kind.

Then Japan is also sending arms production facilities to South Korea, Taiwan, and other Asian countries under the name of reparations, "aid" or "loans".

It is crystal clear that such weapons supplied by the Japanese monopolists will aid the U.S. imperialists in the execution of their aggression on Asia.

Japanese militarists revived by U.S. imperialism are posed, with U.S. blessing, to re-invade other countries to realize their old dream of mastery in Asia—the dream shattered miserably long ago. But Japanese militarism is appearing again as the common enemy of the peaceful people of Asia and the world. But the one who plays with fire will burn himself.

## TWENTY DAYS AMONG DEAR FRIENDS

KIM CHANG JOON



SEVERAL months have passed since I visited the United Arab Republic under the cultural exchange programme between our country and UAR.

But whenever I hear the name of Cairo, the memory of the pleasant days I spent among the dear friends in UAR comes back to me. During our stay there we travelled from Cairo to Port Said, then to Alexandria and along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. We also visited Luxor, the historical city, and Aswan along the valley of the Nile. Although our stay there was such a short one, we saw a lot of things.

Seeing is believing. Everything we saw was much more beautiful and magnificent than we had anticipated.

Our visits to the Great Pyramid at Gizeh, the "Valley of Kings" at Luxor, the Great Temple of Karnak, the Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, and other places most eloquently showed us the brilliant achievements made by the ancient Egyptians on the Nile at the dawn of history. We were deeply moved by the wisdom and uncommon talents of the ancestors of the people of the United Arab Republic, and we came to realize once again how tremendous their contributions to the human civilization were.

Particularly impressive were all the successes the UAR people registered in creating a new life under the leadership of President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

In Helwan, where nothing could be found before the revolution, stand a number of factories—a steel works with an annual capacity of 250,000 tons, a vehicle manufacturing factory, an aircraft factory, a cement plant, the Nasser motor factory, power stations, defence factories, etc. The country's gross value of industrial output has increased by 300 per cent as compared with that of the pre-revolution days.

We looked around the Missr Textile Mill at Miha'a el Kobra and the Kima Chemical Fer-

tilizer Factory at Aswan, both of which are well-equipped with modern installations and whose production keeps growing rapidly every year. In 1964, the Missr Textile Mill produced 31,000 tons of cotton yarn and 122,000,000 metres of cotton fabrics.

Now the country produces twice as much fabrics as in 1952, and exports a large volume of cotton yarn and cotton fabrics.

We also visited the well-known Aswan Dam project. On the work site we saw numerous workers working devotedly. The size of the High Dam has already been well known.

The guide said to us: "The High Dam will give, first of all, great benefits to agriculture. It will irrigate two million feddan (one feddan is equal to 0.42 hectare) of desert and uncultivated land, an equivalent of 25 per cent of all cultivated area which took centuries to reclaim. Besides, its water will also generate as much electric energy as that the whole UAR produces at present."

We also saw the Suez Canal, the great creation of the people of this country. According to the guide, the number of ships passing through the Canal and the revenues from it have remarkably increased over 1955—the year before its nationalization.

Now the board of management of the Suez Canal is promoting the Nasser Plan for further increasing the capacity of the Canal.

The volume of traffic through the Canal has risen remarkably higher than before its nationalization, and it is excellently managed by the UAR people themselves.

Standing on the Suez Canal, we could not but recall the desperate uproars raised by the old "masters" of the Canal—the British and French colonialists and the Western imperialists—when President Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal. They were sure: "The Egyptians can never run the Canal." "The international maritime transport will face a great danger."

But all this was nothing but a pretext for



preparing their piratical armed attack which took place in later years in their attempt to occupy the Canal again.

We were told many inspiring stories when we were in Port Said, the heroic city, which repulsed the aggression of the enemy in those difficult days. At the Memorial of Martyrs in Port Said we felt as if we were still hearing the battle cries of the brave fighters charging at the enemy.

Our guide told us many stories about those who had fought heroically braving all sorts of outrages of the enemy. The guide spoke in an excited tone of a boy of twelve called Navil Mansur who poured gasoline over an enemy barrack before setting it on fire.

We were deeply impressed by the noble spirit of the heroic fighters of Port Said who were ready to lay down their lives without hesitation for the honour of the nation and their motherland. The enemies who boasted their numerical superiority and modern weapons could not see the great strength of the UAR people. In the end the aggressors had to kneel down before the people of UAR.

How brave, right, and wise the people are! They repulsed the enemy's invasion and defended the sovereignty of the nation and glory of the country.

During our stay in UAR we were given warm receptions everywhere we went. And we could feel their warm friendship toward the Korean people.

When we were at the Missr Textile Mill

which keeps friendly ties with the Pyongyang Textile Mill, Jusip Ali Babl, a spinner of the mill, recalled the visit of President Choi Yong Kun of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. to the mill. He said that the bonds of friendship between the two factories, and between the people of the two countries as well, are ever unbreakable and that he would do his utmost to further strengthen the friendship. It is an expression of the firm determination of the people who will fight to the end shoulder to shoulder on the common front against imperialism and colonialism. And I am sure it was not only his feeling.

Whenever there was a chance, our UAR friends expressed their gratitude to the Korean people for their support to the UAR people who are struggling against the expansionists of Israel and for the restoration of rights of the people of Palestine. They also upheld the just stand of the Korean people to unify their country by themselves without any interference from outside.

The close relations of friendship and solidarity created on the common front against imperialism will be ever strengthened as days go by.

We left wishing the UAR people, who have a long history and traditions in the struggle against imperialism, will keep advancing steadily building a new life on their glorious land, the cradle of human civilization, and wishing them prosperity as lasting as the Nile.

I live in an apartment that stands by the Botong River in Pyongyang. I have two brothers and a sister—the eldest is in Hwangjoo, another brother in Ryukpo, then the sister in Sungchun. They all come to see me quite regularly.

Last September we had a grand union at my place, on my birthday.

I also go to see them whenever I have time. As we call on each other so frequently, my neighbours call us a happy family of good brothers and sisters.

But there are missing ones—my wife and my two children, boy and girl and my second brother's wife and their two children!

Already for sixteen years we have been separated, and not a word could we write to each other.

Sixteen years ago we all lived together in a house in Seoul, South Korea; we were a large family, eighteen of us. We were very poor, but we led a harmonious life sharing joys and sorrows.

Then, the U.S. imperialists that occupy South Korea launched the war on June 25, 1950 against North Korea.

As soon as the U.S. and the South Korean armies started the surprise attacks on North Korea, the Korean People's Army repulsed them and started to pursue the fleeing enemy. Soon the Korean People's Army liberated Seoul and kept on their southward march.

Our joy knew no bound. My second brother and I joined the Volunteer Army to fight the American oppressors, later we were in the People's Army.



## My Family

KIM DONG HI

Meanwhile, my eldest brother with his family and my sister left Seoul and went over to North Korea.

But my wife and second brother's wife could not leave with them because of the children—the children were still babies.

When the three-year war ended, I was discharged from the People's Army. In the meantime I located my brothers and sister in North Korea. How happy we were to find each other!

## Han Suk Bong and His Mother

HAN SUK BONG (1543-1595) is a famous calligrapher of Korea. And he owed his name much to his mother.

The family was poor, and the father died when the boy was still a child. Since then his mother had been the sole breadwinner by selling rice-cake.

From his childhood, the boy showed talent in penmanship.

But paper was a rarity in those

days and Suk Bong could not get paper for his penmanship. So, when he was outside, he would write on the stone-bridge, then erase words and write again, and in the house he would fill the vessel with sand to practise his brush.

Though life was hard for her and her son, the mother was highly proud of the boy's skill and decided to send him to a

temple in a deep mountain where he could drill and perfect his penmanship. On the day of his departure, the mother said: "You need not worry about me, but put heart and soul in your work and perfect the art. Do not return until you have attained perfection."

After he was gone, she worked harder so as to make the boy devote his all to his pursuit. Her cake was more delicious and a feast to the eyes too.

Years passed. Suk Bong returned home to tell his mother that he had mastered the art of penmanship and now would stay home and help her.

The boy's words gave her boundless joy—after all, she bore all the hardship for such a day. Yet, there was something, she could detect, immaturity in the words of her son.

Though she had made rice-cake for more than ten years, never could she feel as confident in the outcome as the boy had said about his work. It excited no little apprehension in her and she was sure that he was far from mastering the art.

That night she suggested. In the darkness she would cut the cake and he would write letters. It would tell who had mastered one's art.

When the lights were lit again, they found her pieces of cake were perfect in uniformity, but his letters were of all sizes and uneven.

Only then did Suk Bong realize that he had still much to go. He apologized to his mother and set out again to the temple in the mountain.

Of course, his mother wanted to have him with her even if it was only few days. But she did not detain him.

Han Suk Bong studied hard for some more years.

He practised the brush and learned from the famous calligraphers of the preceding years

until he developed his own style of penmanship. Now Han Suk Bong was the famous calligrapher of the time and a man of great erudition.

Thus the mother's devotion made Han Suk Bong what he was. Even today Han Suk Bong's mother is honoured as a paragon among the Korean women.





In South Korea I had been too poor to go to school. But, when I was demobilized, I could study at an institute of higher learning at the expense of the state.

On top of it, upon my graduation I was given a job according to my wishes. My old sickness—the case which had been considered incurable in South Korea—was treated successfully.

My eldest brother is working at an orchard, and his son Yung Hwan is a doctor after he finished a medical college. My second brother is working at a tractor factory.

My sister who got married here in North Korea is now a mother of two children. Now she teaches at the Sungchun Higher Technical School.

Indeed, we all lead a happy life here, except that my wife and children and those of my second brother are not with us—who should have been here.

It is because of the cursed Military Demarcation Line that is imposed on us. It divides the country into North and South and prevents the people from travelling to South and North.

Often I keep awake all night thinking of my family in South Korea where the American soldiers lord it over.

My son and daughter, babies then, must have grown now, old enough to go to the college. But like my brothers and me in the past, and like many other young people now in South Korea, they may be wandering about the streets with shoeshine kits or chewing-gum boxes.

The gloomy news from South Korea makes my heart heavier all the more.

The slum area of Yongdoodong outside the Dongdaemoon Gate—the place named contemptuously the “shame” of Seoul—is the place where I lived in Seoul. Still vivid before my

eyes are the people there. They hardly knew where the next meal would come from, the school age children roaming about streets because they could not go to school as they were poor. Yes, I can see the worn-out and poverty-stricken faces of the people.

What severe hardships and misfortunes the people in South Korea are going through at the hands of the Americans in South Korea!

The South Korean people are still leading the same miserable life as they had gone through in the past in South Korea. So are my wife and children. Still worse, they are separated from me, husband and father.

The U.S. imperialists that put South Korea under their occupation bar all North-South interchange—travels and even postal service. They are making families separated. Such an intolerable state must come to an end and our country must be unified at once. This is the earnest wish of the entire Korean people.

My life is full of hopes, worthwhile and happy. Of course, it would have been complete if my family could join me.

And I am sure I am not the only one that feels in this way. There are millions of people who are suffering like me from the country's split. The entire people in the South are groaning under U.S. occupation. It is the earnest wish of the whole nation to see the country unified so that parents and children, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, separated into North and South can meet again, and the people of South Korea too enjoy a free and happy life like the people in the North.

Only U.S. occupation of South Korea hampers the unification of Korea, the earnest wish of the nation. And, today, the entire Korean people are fighting to drive the U.S. imperialists out of South Korea and unify the country.

## “ 5 Year Slave Trade Plan ”

A bogus “corporation” with an impressive name “Korean Overseas Development Corporation” made appearance in South Korea.

This corporation, however, exports neither commodity nor capital but human being. In short, it is a set-up for slave trade.

Not so long ago the president of this corporation released a statement on the “five year plan

for manpower export”. According to him, his corporation by 1970 will send 4,880 families abroad and 73,800 persons would be working in foreign lands. The plan lists in detail to what countries and how many will be sent. Among the countries listed are South America, Southeast Asia, Australia, West Germany.

The world knows that many South Korean people were forcibly

“emigrated” to barren land in Brazil and coal mines of West Germany. And it is a well-known fact that the South Koreans sent to these countries are subjected to hard toil and maltreatment. Yet, Pak Jung Hi is working with more zest to make this corporation a going concern and export more South Koreans. Recently Pak Jung Hi visited his pals in Southeast Asia at the bid of his master, U.S. During the trip, he boasted “abundant South Korea's manpower”. All this indicates that he, the person known as president of the South Korean puppet regime, is the very master of slave trade.



Children enjoying themselves on a holiday

(At Youth Park at the foot of Moranbong Hill)



Oil painting  
"The Premier and Children"  
By Kim Rin Kwon





A new Korean Feature Film in Technicolor

# "THE ONJUNG-RYUNG RIDGE"

YOON KI KEUN

**T**HE Onjung-ryung Ridge," a new feature film in technicolor, is produced by the Korean Feature Film Studio this year.

The script was written by Li Jong Soon, it was directed by Merited Actor Oh Byung Cho; its cameraman was Merited Artist Pak Byung Soo. The story of the film deals with the inner-world and hope-filled life of our young people who love their motherland.

A worker In Suk (played by Merited Actor Um Gil Sun), hero of the film, is a bulldozer operator in the day and a student at the College of Fine Art at night.

Now he is on vacation and comes to Mt. Keumgang to admire the scenery. One day fascinated by the breath-taking scenery which unfolds before his eyes, In Suk sits before the canvas.

While engrossed in painting, In Suk notices and picks up a handkerchief floating down on a mountain brook.

The handkerchief has come down from the top of the mountain; it belonged to a girl named Yoon Jung Sook (played by Sung Hye Rim), a member of a geological survey team. She dropped the handkerchief by an accident.

With this as an occasion, In Suk and Jung Sook become acquainted with each other. Afterwards, In Suk, thinking of Jung Sook, decides to draw a girl prospector for his graduation work.

However, In Suk, lacking a deep understanding of girl prospectors, finds it difficult to describe it on the canvas.

In Suk again meets Jung Sook from whom he learns something more about her. However, when he takes up the brush to picture Jung Sook's face, somehow the work does not progress.

Knowing In Suk having some trouble, Bong Sup, one of In Suk's friends, calls upon Jung Sook to ask her to sit as a model for In Suk's painting.

She agrees. Now she is a model for In Suk's new picture, this brings them closer, and they fall in love with each other.

In Suk decides to present his new picture "A Girl Searching for Treasure" for his graduation work. But the work invites much criticism of his teacher, for it is insensible to the aesthetic feelings of the times.

It was an unexpected criticism. Being disappointed, even annoyed, In Suk is determined to devote his life to rural construction and decides to go back to his home.

Now he is back on Onjung-ryung ridge, his native place. Before coming down, he sent a short note to Jung Sook informing her of his intentions.

In the village In Suk meets Uncle

Sun Dol, the managerial chairman of the co-op farm, who took the lead in building the roads and carrying ammunition for the People's Army during the Korean war. In Suk becomes a tractor driver of the farm.

In Suk thinks of Yoo Chul Woong, the Regimental Commander (played by Merited Actor Yoo Won Joon). You see, he was the one who had coaxed In Suk to take up fine arts after the war. The Regimental Commander had an occasion to see some sketches of In Suk, who was an orderly then. The sketches were on the battle to defend Heights 351.

In those days, the people there braving the rain of enemy shells and bullets, came out to build the supply route for the People's Army.

The images of those fighting people haunt In Suk persistently.

One day In Suk climbs up the Onjung-ryung ridge where he fought together with his comrades-in-arms in the war, then he decides to paint a picture on the people of the Onjung-ryung ridge building the roads. And Uncle Sun Dol will be his central character.

Meanwhile, Jung Sook knowing little what is going on in In Suk's mind, spends the day feeling her heart sinking after he left for the countryside.

Conductor Jai Woong, a war-time buddy of In Suk's, calls upon Jung Sook's father Yoo Chul Woong, now a divisional commander. From Jai Woong she comes to know that In Suk was the very orderly, who, at the risk of his own life, saved her father.

Jung Sook's heart goes out to In Suk all the more. In the end, she calls on Bong Sup, In Suk's friend, who works at the Hwanghai Iron Works, from whom she learns where In Suk is.

Now Jung Sook visits the Keum-

gang Co-op Farm while she is on a business trip.

However, it so happens that In Suk is away on that day when Jung Sook comes to see him. In Suk has gone to the county hospital carrying a village woman, an expectant mother. So Jung Sook waits impatiently for him, but he does not come back in time, and Jung Sook has to leave.

Upon returning from the county, In Suk learns that she was here. In Suk hurries to meet her, but the bus has gone already. And he wonders if he would see her again.

Yet In Suk is not discouraged. He puts heart and soul in his paintings "Onjung-ryung Ridge" and "A Girl Searching for Treasure".

His paintings are well received at the College of Fine Arts for their true reflection of life and bold approaches. The paintings are eventually displayed at the national exhibition of fine arts.

One day Yoo Chul Woong, with his daughter Jung Sook, comes to the exhibition. A painting particularly attracts his attention. It is about the struggle of the people in the rear to aid the front during the war. As he looks at the picture Chul Woong recalls the difficult war days.

Looking back on those days when he fought as a regimental commander, Yoo Chul Woong asks his daughter to check the name of the painter.

The painter is Kim In Suk. Yoo cannot contain his joy. He thinks that Kim In Suk, once his orderly, of whom he has known nothing since he was sent to a hospital in the rear during the war, is not dead.

Jung Sook, too, looking at his picture, feels her heart beating with joy.

Yoo Chul Woong visits the Keumgang Co-op Farm situated at the foot of the Onjung-ryung ridge, where he meets In Suk, Uncle Sun Dol and others. They talk about those days when they fought together.

And In Suk and Jung Sook too finally meet each other.



Members of the surveying team pause to admire In Suk's painting



How beautiful Onjung-ryung Ridge is! From the ridge Jung Sook drinks in the beauty of Nature

In Suk, now a tractor driver, returns to Onjung-ryung Ridge where he fought during the war



The view is so gorgeous, he finds it beyond his power to do justice to it







JUNG CHANG YOON

Pak Sang Moon was in the senior class.

Now he had to write a dissertation for graduation, for which he had to consult a great number of reference books. He was sitting in a reading room of a library in Tokyo. Before him was an old book.

Suddenly he pounded the table with his fist. He just read the following passage in a speech made by a Japanese general.

"Men!

Do not hesitate to hit the Koreans. Neither tank nor field-gun do they have. Nor do they have any steel. We have to make the land a rich milch cow for us."

The library people demanded him to pay for the damage. But when they saw a young Korean's fist bleeding, they got frightened and did not press for the damage . . .

The professor was a Japanese authority on mineralogy. And this was his last, farewell lecture to the graduation class. In a slow, measured tone he spoke:

"There is so much to be done for Imperial Japan. And remember! Whole Asia is your stage. Abundant underground riches of China and Korea will meekly surrender to you. Do your best to make these riches serve Japan's prosperity. Korea still undeveloped is yet to produce a scholar who will draw a mineral chart. You must explore every possibility for utilizing the land we conquered . . . Then, until we meet again, I wish you all good health."

The brazen Japanese professor could not conclude his speech as he had prepared. Four ink bottles flew into his face. They were thrown by three Chinese students and one Korean. The Korean was Pak Sang Moon . . .

\* \* \*

"My wandering life had one aim. It was a mineral chart of the land. I must tell you, this kind of life

was not an easy one. There is hardly any mountain inn where I did not spend a night. To get a piece of stone I had to climb up a mountain. Then on the following day, rain or shine, I had to start for a new, unknown place in search of a new vein of ore so that I could mark my map. In this way, I looked for a lead at the price of personal comfort, luxury, even the youth.

"There were several who wanted to finish this project with me. There were many who said they would devote their life to this work. But as they came, they left. Fame and a soft life were more enchanting than treading untrodden paths collecting rocks.

"When they left they were not without something to boast. They all became to wear a beard. In the university lecture hall or at the symposium they demanded. Well, you must make due recognition of my trips. I dare say my trips were as worthy as those of Columbus!

"All these gentlemen were triumphant generals. Best seats were reserved for them.

"I must confess. There were times that I thought of quitting this weary life. There were several attractive offers of professorship. Then a few mine owners were ready to give me a chunk of money for my chart, incomplete as it was. Don't ever think I disliked the idea of occupying a dignified position and spending the rest of my life in the bed of roses. A beautiful wife, a fine study, a lovely garden, enjoyable dinner parties, getting together with old acquaintances—how good they sound when compared with the life of a rolling stone from one village to another. No holidays, nothing! Yet, I could not make myself depart from my chosen path.

"I had a girl who was engaged to marry me. Do you know what she said in her last letter? Tell me, please, wrote she, when your slow boat will come to a port. I answered. My letter even had a title—A trip that never ends! I guess she could not and did not understand the true meaning of life. At any rate

I said. I knew when you refused to understand the poem that I showed, you and I would travel different paths. In the end, she was gone! I guess she had a mind that could not comprehend beyond cheap sentimentalism of dime novels or a hack poet.

"But evidently it made a good story. Because a reporter of an evening paper—they say he drank like a fish—got hold of the story and made the most of it. His article was something like this—A fanatic who renounced a big fortune and a rare beauty!

"But, it pained me! You've no idea if a night could be that long for one! Many a time I said. No more of this. I'll go home! And I kept asking myself. Why must I pay so dearly? Do I want to be a scholar? Many wrote theses with not too much effort. And they are now scholars of weighty importance.

"Yet, I withstood all temptation. I became insensible to ridicule that poured upon me. So, I was a fanatic! Nothing could budge me from this track. I said to myself: If I quit because it is too difficult, who would finish it? The fame one gets by a few kind words of some one in power could evaporate overnight. But what one earns for his sweat is noble. With this I will please myself, the land, and the people. The more difficult I feel, the more firmly I should stand here, on this track, the right track.

"So, young fellow, I'll tell you I'm still on it. In old days when the country was under the Japanese, I just drifted from one place to another. But, with the country's liberation, the whole picture changed. You see, in old days I roamed about the mountains with my heart burning inside. But now I see a definite goal. All this is for the country and the people.

"Look, young fellow. You're an army man, a lieutenant. Right? You give commands, don't you? Do you think you can order me? Like this!"

Now he tried to be an old sergeant who is shouting a command. His shout surprised the inn-keeper.

"Forward March on the Right Track! What's wrong with you, tallie? Why so slow? . . . Well, how do you like it? I shout to myself like this! And it always gives me a fresh strength."

I hung on to his words. And I could see the thick forest, the wilderness in a dreary fall day, the white clay-covered road in May, the small school house in a hamlet at dusk—and his dust-covered shoes treading on the right track.

Our regiment, our division, I too tread on this track—the right track of the land—smashing the enemy. So this man Pak Sang Moon could be a man of our regiment or a commanding officer. He is my comrade-in-arms. Then what shall I do to beg his pardon? I simply did not know who he was. Will he forgive me?

The rain continued.

The final chess game was still left unplayed.

As usual, the hissing wind and the pouring rain, then the rushing streams—these were about all we could hear. Would the rain ever stop and will boats be on the Bookchun again? Often there were land slides.

That day too we sat face to face with the chess

board between us.

Suddenly it sounded like the whole earth cracking up. The old woman turned her ears in the direction where the sound came from. Startled she said to Mr. Pak who was puffing at his pipe.

"My land! It seems Chulsan is cracking up!

"You mean the name of the mountain is Chulsan."

"That's right. People here call the mountain a Mountain of Iron. That's what Chulsan means, isn't it? When I came here first, my father-in-law used to say that in times gone by there was a big house, a huge mansion, built of iron in the mountain. And the place was for locking up unfaithful children and women."

I burst into laughter at her words. Mr. Pak too made a smirk, but soon he was serious. He asked her a lot of questions. How far is that mountain from here? If she has been there? And if she has ever heard of gold mines or iron mines in that mountain?

"There is no such thing. I don't think people ever stepped in the mountain. The place is haunted by tigers."

"Really?"

Now Mr. Pak was almost solemn. And I could guess easily why.

The moral of the legend is, perhaps, to teach the children and women filial piety and chastity. At the same time, the name could suggest the mountain having stores of iron. When they say a big house of iron being there, I suppose, it could mean that some had just wished to build a house with iron found there. Evidently the mountain contained large deposits of iron.

I heard of many cases of innocent legendary tales leading to gold mines.

Suddenly, Mr. Pak turned around to say to me in a most serious tone. He would go and see the cracked mountain next day.

The rain did not let off next morning either. But Mr. Pak made preparations for the trip. He wore the hammer at the belt, the field-glass around his neck. Then the note-book, compass, red pencils, and lunch box went into the knapsack. He was going to take the camera with him, too. Then he changed his mind because of the weather. About the gun, he seemed hesitant for some moments. But he charged it and slung it across his shoulder after putting the cover on.

"May I go with you?"

I asked him while making myself ready for the trip. Mr. Pak thought a few moments before answering. The answer was a flat "No!" And I felt rather embarrassed. I guess he sensed it, too, as he said.

"You know, there are times when the mountain climbers wish to walk alone!"

"You mean to say I shall be a burden?"

I must confess. I wanted to see a mountain split into two. I wanted to see the heart of the mountain. Maybe I could see traces of the primitive ages.

"No, I didn't mean that way. Remember! What you said could be the other way, round too!"



Soon he started.

Left alone, I played around with the camera for some time, but soon got tired of it. I made daily records. Then I asked the old woman to tell me some stories. But she asked me in an earnest voice.

"Look, young man! I know a very nice girl."

"A girl?"

"That's right. You should get married."  
I chuckled.

It began to get dark outside . . . The night grew old, but no sign of Mr. Pak. Some ominous thoughts haunted me. I asked the old inn-keeper if something could go wrong. Of course, she had no answer. A sense of fright overtook me.

When the wind shook the wicket gate, we looked outside and called his name. She and I could picture all kinds of evil things that could happen to one in the untrodden mountain, specially in the rainy season. But neither of us dared to breathe a word about them.

I wondered. Mr. Pak may be caught in the clay-colored water that is raging down from the overflowing valley. Then he may be lost in the virgin forest infested with wild beasts!

The night wore on. The rain kept pouring down. And he did not come home.

I started out for the Iron Mountain. The old inn-keeper told me a few things. What I should do when I meet a beast, when there is a land slide, and when I cross a stream in the valley. She even said she would come with me if only she had been in her fifties. I consoled her.

"Please do not worry. I'll bring him home."

I put on the raincoat and tied my rubber boots securely so that no water would leak in. I carried my gun with me.

To walk into the unknown mountain wrapped in a mist and water was eerie. The deeper I went in, the narrower got my vision. I was in the Iron Mountain.

It seemed there was a big land slide in the mountain. A part of the mountain was in a mess intermingled with rocks and trees. There was hardly any path. The whole earth was hidden behind the trees.

I looked for anything like foot-prints; but none, except my own, were to be found.

The peak suffered serious wounds. But not a groan it made. I guess it did not want to see its ugly self—part of its body was torn off. Its crest and waist were shrouded by a dark fog.

I covered every part of the mountain. Prompted by evil thoughts, I even looked where there had been fresh land slides. Numerous animals watched me from behind the trees and between the rocks. Eventually I took out my gun and fired a few blank-shots. I hoped Mr. Pak would answer with his hunting gun. Only the sound of my shots echoed around.

It was already noon. I was now desperate and kept firing blank-shots. Then finding a place under an old tree where I could avoid the rain, I lit up a cigarette.

Suddenly I thought I heard a shot in the distance. Did I hear it or was it an illusion? But an over-

whelming sense of joy made me almost stagger. I rushed in the direction where, I thought, the shot came from. It was the other side of the mountain, a very steep slope. I could see rocks rolling crushed into bits. Among them, to my surprise, I found Mr. Pak all blood-covered! He was lying in a crater where the rain did not hit him directly. But he was holding a bunch of stones.

"Mr. Pak! Mr. Pak!" I called out.

"Thanks, young fellow. You've come to save this clumsy ore collector. The rocks rolled and they made a mess of my feet. But I'm lucky, look at this!"

He tried to smile pointing to his stones, but his blood-smeared face looked awful.

I put him on my back, but I was too weak to carry the giant. I took off my raincoat and spread it on the ground. Then I made Mr. Pak sit on it and began to pull it after tying it with my belt.

"I'm so sorry to cause you so much trouble."

"Oh, what're you saying?"

"But, do you know? This is not a mountain of iron. But it is a mountain of copper. When I was hit by the rocks last night I went out. But when I came to, I felt hearing charges in a copper mine."

Even in the painful situation, Mr. Pak wanted to talk about ores.

"I don't recall exactly who it was. But there was a British mineralogist who lived 20 years more than I. But he could not find such a copper mine, an inexhaustible one. It makes me laugh to think of his last book."

"Mr. Pak, would you like to have a smoke?"

But he went on.

"When the war is over, our factories and construction sites will be using copper of this mountain: 'The land precious' is not only for a poet to say. By the way, what did you say just now? That's right, let's have a smoke."

It was toward dusk when we returned to the inn. The old inn-keeper who had been waiting for us rushed out to welcome us.

"My, my! What happened to you?"

"I'm sorry I made you worry."

She helped me carry him inside.

Ten days had passed since then.

The sky cleared up. The dazzling sun made the rain-soaked earth steam. The rain stopped, and the flood had subsided. They could not restore the bridge, but boats could cross the river now.

Mr. Pak's wounds began to heal. He could not use his one foot yet. The ankle was hit by the rolling rock in full force. It looked like he had to go to a hospital for it.

There was the final chess game. The men of both sides kept charging.

The men of the lieutenant moved on doggedly. But due to unsteadiness of their young master they were ambushed by the men of the calm mineralogist, the wanderer and optimist. Eventually, my worthy opponent succeeded in sending one of his men into a

position to immobilize my King. The lieutenant panged the chess board with his fist. It was a miserable defeat for him.

"You're a good fellow. I will carve your name on this gun."

Saying this, Mr. Pak took out a pocket-knife and carved my name on his gun butt.

"We'll see again when the war is over, won't we?"

"Where would we meet?"

"Gee, I wish I knew! But one thing is sure. We'll meet in this victorious land."

By now we came to take to each other.

At last the day of our departure came. I remember what the old inn-keeper said weeping.

"You are good people. Please remember my place."

We answered, "Of course, we'll remember."

The boat began to move carrying us. Goodby, grandma! Goodby to our chess board!

When we got to the other side of the river, we walked to the highway where we caught a truck and went straight to a hospital in Kangke. They hospitalized Mr. Pak.

I saw the surgeon in his office—he was rather elderly but a nervous type. I asked the doctor.

"Do you think one of his legs is lost to him for good?"

"I'm afraid so."

"No other way?"

The surgeon had to perform an emergency operation, and he did not wish to talk to me any more.

I ransacked my pockets and with what money I found I bought some cookies and cans. Now I had to go back to the hospital and say goodby to Mr. Pak. Soon I found myself wiping off tears sitting under a tree on the roadside.

His foot—no loss could be greater than this to him.

All this happened many years ago. In the meantime the war ended. I marched through the emotion-charged streets where bouquets and confetti flew.

To my old school I returned. Before long I finished it.

Again several years passed. But still I could not locate him.

It seemed the young chaps in the next room finished their figuring. Soon I could hear they were putting away papers.

One of them spoke out, "Let's go hunting!" I guess since they put in a good day's work, they wanted to enjoy the rest of the day. He came into the room where I was holding the gun.

"Is this your gun?"

"No, it belongs to Academician Pak Sang Moon. He is in the mountain back of this house!"

He looked at his wrist watch, then added, "He would be back soon."

"Well, how is he? What happened to his one foot?"

"He is fine. One of his feet was sacrificed while he was making the mineral chart of the country. But he finished with the chart. He is an Academician and a professor. He is here to guide our prospecting work."

The two young men went up the mountain.

While I was waiting for his return, I paced the room.

He stuck to his track—the right track. And he reached his destination.

I wonder if I would ever meet any one whose heart is nobler than his?

- The End -





# This Is How Matters Stood

KIM HYO SUK

I was minister of interior of the South Korean regime when the Korean war broke out on June 25, 1950.

All the secret about the outbreak of the war was accessible to me. Even today those who started the war are working hard to deceive the world. So, it is my intention here to write about who started the Korean war and how it was started—the war which had brought untold sufferings on the Korean people.

It was in November, 1949 that a U.S. Senate fact-finding team led by Senator Knowland, a member of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, came to South Korea.

Knowland inspected the areas along the 38th Parallel that divided Korea into North and South after World War II. He also reviewed units of the South Korean army and attended a national assembly session.

Addressing the assembly he said to the effect that South Korea was a strong anti-communist bastion in Asia and a reliable partner of the United States, and the U.S. would keep aiding South Korea.

Later at a party given by Syngman Rhee who was president then, Knowland again said:

He was very glad to find South Korea ready to fight communism. He was greatly impressed by the fortifications along the 38th parallel—an impregnable line. Then South Korea had a well-trained army, and he was sure South Korea would have little trouble in unifying the land with this army. When he returned to Washington, he went on, he would present a bill to Congress to provide more aid to South Korea so that it could complete preparations for the march-north campaign. But war was war, so he felt South Korea should make 500,000 to 600,000 young people join some semi-military organizations to receive a military training.

What he meant was this. The war was to

start in late 1949. But preparations were not complete, so they should wait a while longer.

In closing months of 1949, Syngman Rhee ordered the South Korean Youth League to set up the so-called Youth Defence Corps in all parts of South Korea. In this way, some one-half million young people were made to go through a military training.

After this, Syngman Rhee instigated members of the South Korean Youth League to stage "demonstrations" in front of the U.S. embassy in Seoul demanding "Give us guns!" This took place around January of 1950.

But everyone knows this was only a make-believe. They wanted weapons for attack on the North.

In January, 1950 Sebald, head of foreign relations bureau under Headquarters U.S. Far East Army flew into Seoul for a brief visit of few days. During his stay he saw Muccio, Washington's ambassador to Syngman Rhee, General Roberts, head of U.S. military advisors. He also held several secret talks with Syngman Rhee and his aides.

He came to Seoul to learn at first hand about war preparations and measures to be taken for improving the equipment of the South Korean army.

Sebald told Syngman Rhee in this vein:

It would be more advantageous if the march-north could be expedited. But what he found was that more preparations were in order. When such preparations were complete, he asserted, there was no question about the victory of the South Korean army. But it would be advisable to have some legal grounds prepared so that the U.S. armed forces could aid or take part directly in the war should there rise such needs.

Only few days after his departure from Seoul, on January 26, 1950, the conclusion of the Seoul-Washington mutual military aid

agreement was announced.

Under the strength of this agreement the South Korean army was put under MacArthur while its equipment was improved.

In the meantime Washington did everything to heighten the tension on the Parallel. It incited South Korean army to engage in skirmishes.

According to Chai Byung Duk, chief of staff of the South Korean army at that time, there were some 1,000 such skirmishes in the areas of the 38th Parallel between July, 1949 and May, 1950; they killed hundreds of innocent inhabitants of North and burned down thousands of houses.

This was carried out under the order of Roberts, according to Chai, to show the strength of Syngman Rhee's army and make the North

Koreans fear-stricken.

On June 17, 1950, Dulles, special envoy of President Truman, came to Seoul.

He made a tour of the 38th parallel areas on the very next day and gave the final approval to the march-north plan. And he was sure that no one would stand up against the South Korean army. The day was not far off, he said, when they can show their strength. He said that the time for march-north was at hand.

Dulles addressed the national assembly on June 19. His speech ran like this: Syngman Rhee said that if South Korea could not defend "democracy" successfully in cold war, it would be victorious in hot war. Upholding Syngman Rhee's words, Dulles added that U.S. was ready to aid South Korea materially and spiritually that was fighting communism.

On June 25, 1950, the South Korean puppet army launched a surprise attack against North Korea across the entire area of the 38th Parallel





That night Dulles met secretly at Syngman Rhee's residence Kyungmoodai with Muccio and other high U.S. officials, Syngman Rhee and his aides.

At this meeting Dulles stated that he came to Seoul under a special order of Truman. He was to check South Korea's readiness for the war. It was Truman's wish, said Dulles, to start the war at once if all preparations were ready.

Dulles said what he saw was satisfactory. Now it was an opportune moment, adding that he was greatly excited as the time was here to have U.S. designs on the Far East realized and see the unification of Korea by Syngman Rhee. Since all preparations were ready, there was no need of waiting any longer. Attack should start before North Korea's communist government got strong. Once the war was started, Dulles was sure, it would end in the victory of South Korea and it would not take a long time either. The another point, Dulles went on, why the war should start now. "Communist China is getting strong, so we must occupy North Korea as fast as we can, and we must recover the mainland of China before Communist China gets too strong." If need be, Dulles added, they would take a joint action with Taiwan. At any rate, South Korea should start the war. After that it should leave everything to the U.S.

Leaving Seoul, Dulles told Syngman Rhee again:

Start the war against North right away. But as soon as you start military action, bring the case to the United Nations accusing that North attacked first so as to arouse public opinion. Then we will take care of the rest. Should the war turn out unfavourable to us, you take the defensive position and hold on two weeks. By then, the question of U.S. participation in the war will be solved.

Three days after Dulles' departure the final secret meeting was held at Kyungmoodai. It was on June 23, 1950. Again the participants were Muccio, who was in the chair, and other high ranking U.S. officials and Syngman Rhee and his aides.

Muccio stated. All preparations are ready and we have instructions. The only remaining question is "when." The army should stand by combat ready, the information service should report widely that North attacked South, the

department of interior should be ready to maintain war time security.

Then Roberts spoke:

"The time is set for early hours of June 25, Sunday. Five out of eight divisions of the South Korean army are deployed at the first line on the Parallel. They are waiting for the final order. If the attack starts on Sunday morning, results would be greater, as Sunday is an off-day and the people are relaxed. Then in Seoul and in all strategic points passes are to be issued to junior officers and men. After an elapse of certain hours, send out a mobilization order as the communist army of North attacked South. Then even men on the street would believe that the North started the war."

In the end, at 5:00 a.m. on June 25, the South Korean army started hostilities along the entire 38th Parallel against the North. Now the Korean war was on.

This is how matters stood.

Yet, the U.S. aggressors are trying to make things stand on their head.

But the historical facts cannot be concealed for long.

### Bullet Shield



## KORYU AND ITS NEIGHBOURS

RIM KWANG CHUL

THE Koryu dynasty from its inception had to face the threat of invasion by the Khitans from north. The Khitans, a nomadic people in Inner Mongolia, set up the country Liao in 916, and conquered neighbouring tribes.

In 926, the kingdom of Balhai was conquered by the Khitans. Although Balhai asked Koryu for help, Koryu was not in a position to provide its northern neighbour with help it needed. Koryu was yet to complete its conquest of the whole Korean peninsula, and the country's foundation was not yet firm.

Nevertheless, the people of Koryu felt sympathy for the people of Balhai, and welcomed the people coming to settle in Koryu, while nursing a hatred for the savage aggression and plunder by the Khitans. Koryu sharpened its vigilance and strengthened the defence against possible Khitan's invasion.

To this end, the Koryu people building Pyongyang as the second capital, strove to colonize the western areas of the Korean peninsula with Pyongyang as the centre.

The people of Balhai who had come down to Koryu were made to settle there, and people of Koryu from other areas were removed to those regions, then fortresses were erected on important places.

In the late tenth century the Khitan army invaded frequently the Amrok basin, and the Koryu built new roads there, and fortified the walls.

In 993, the Khitans with an army 800,000 strong invaded Koryu.

They demanded Koryu to cede the land once belonged to Koguryu to them and the king of Koryu to proceed to the capital of Khitan to sue for peace and express the intentions of friendship. But Koryu flatly rejected the demands and fought to repulse the invaders.

The Khitans arrived at Anyoongjin near the Chungchun river, but they were stopped there by the heroic defenders.

The Khitans had to propose for reconciliation. Negotiations ensued between General Su Heui of

Koryu and the commander of the Khitans.

General Su Heui denouncing their unjust claims demanded their withdrawal at once.

In the end, the invaders had to get out of Koryu.

But the Khitan ruling class did not give up their ambitions. Taking advantage of strife in the Koryu court, another big force of the Khitans, this time 400,000 led by the king himself, invaded Koryu again.

They marched quickly toward Kaesong, the capital, avoiding battles as much as they could.

The fate of the Koryu kingdom hung in balance. But the army and people under command of General Kang Kam Chan fought heroically after sending the king to the rear.

The Khitans' second invasion ended again in a complete failure.

In the meantime, Khitan (Liao) became more powerful, occupying most of the Balhai territory and controlling neighbouring tribes.

In 1018 100,000 of Khitans invaded Koryu again. But they had to withdraw in face of the able tactics of General Kang Kam Chan and the resolute struggle of the Koryu people.

About thirty years from 993, the Khitans attacked Koryu no less than nine times. And it must be stated the period being the most difficult one for Koryu that had just put the whole peninsula under its control. And it was a period of the indomitable spirit of the Koryu people being fully demonstrated.

The Korean nation is proud of Generals Su Heui and Kang Kam Chan, patriots who defeated and drove away the enemy.

The prestige of Koryu rose outwardly, and economy and culture developed internally.

The Sung dynasty of China had a close relation with Koryu, because its stand against Khitan was identical with that of Koryu.

Trade flourished between Koryu and Sung in the 11th and 12th centuries. Ginseng, gold and silver works, and sulphur, silk, rush-mat, paper, ink-stick and writing-brush were sent to Sung. It was said that the upper class of Sung were fond of the goods from



SOME time ago I read in an old Seoul newspaper an article on actress Kim Sin Jai.

She was a very popular actress in Seoul in the pre-liberation days. She was quite close to me when I was in South Korea. So I read the article in one breath. But I was very sorry for her lot.

According to the paper, Kim Sin Jai, a well-respected actress, was reduced to a concubine of a puppet army officer as there was no way to sustain herself, talented as she was. She is in an awful situation now—the man abandoned her.

When I read the news, I could not help feeling sad at her ill-fated lot and great indignation at what made her so.

Kim Sin Jai was loved by all for her simplicity and modesty. And she led a clean life. But South Korea under U.S. occupation drove her to such a pit.

We two appeared mostly in films playing the leading role. So we seldom appeared together. But I played with Kim Sin Jai in "Daffodil". At any rate, I was in intimate terms with her. Kim Sin Jai always gave good performances.

But, in the corrupted society of South Korea she could not develop any more her talents, but was driven into such a wretched plight. Whenever I think of the miserable life of the friend of mine, I can not but be concerned about all the actresses in South Korea.

When I was in South Korea, I saw with my own eyes the evil

## MY FRIENDS IN SOUTH KOREA



MOON YE BONG  
Merited Actress  
Korean Film Studio

society—South Korea where the U.S. aggressors and their stooges are on the rampage.

Only the decadent American culture is having a field day in South Korea, driving out all conscientious actors and actresses.

Even in the Japanese days, Kim Sin Jai strove hard to devote herself to acting, though her family life was an unhappy one. She did

everything to lead a clean and true life.

But, her present plight is beyond description. What is the reason? Her story speaks of the corrupt South Korean society and sufferings of the people.

Now my life presents a striking contrast to hers.

I am a Merited Actress of the Democratic People's Republic of

Korea. I appeared in films—"A Partisan's Daughter", "The Red Flower", "On the Path of Growth" and many others. The movie goes receive me well. I am doing my best for guiding young actors and actresses.

My family is a happy one under the warm care of the state. My husband enjoys his work, too. We have four children; the first boy, a graduate of a Conservatory, is a composer, two girls, graduates of Kim Il Sung University, are a journalist and a researcher at the Academy of Sciences, and the youngest, another boy, is a student of the literary department of the University.

I and my husband often think of what would have become of us if we had stayed in South Korea.

When we lived some years in South Korea after liberation, we lived very poorly as I could not appear in the film and my husband could not find any job.

Under the circumstances, it was very difficult for us to send the children even to primary school.

Once we came over to North Korea, we found a new life waiting for us.

All the children could go to school as they wished at the expense of the state, and I became again a cinema actress.

Recalling the past to my mind, I cannot suppress my sympathy and sorrow over Kim Sin Jai, all the South Korean actresses for that matter.

Some time ago a foreign journalist who was in our country asked me if I received any fan mails. I told him I receive many, not only from Korean fans but many from abroad as well.

But, for so many years, I could not get a piece of mail from South Korea. Nor could I write even a line to them. All this though we live in the same land, in our country.

Nearly twenty-one years already

have passed since the artificial division of Korea was made by the U.S. aggressors. And South Korea is still under U.S. occupation. The American troops must be made to go from South Korea.

For the sake of my friends in South Korea, too, I earnestly hope the country will be immediately unified and actors and actresses of South Korea enjoy the same happiness as I do.

Filming a feature film "General Sherman" —  
Merited Actress Moon Ye Bong (left)



Koryu. Merchant boats of Sung came to Koryu crossing the West Sea in July and August.

The thriving trade with Sung eventually opened the way for many other countries to come to Koryu, even hundreds of merchants from the Arab land came, bringing special products of the tropics for silks of Koryu. In the late 11th century, the Japanese traders changed sulphur, copper, mercury, marine products and bamboo for books, paper, ink-sticks, writing-brushes, and luxury goods of Koryu.

Now the Khitans maintained trade relations with Koryu, while Nyujin bartered fur and drugs with handicrafts of Koryu.

In Kaesong, the capital of Koryu, there was a

hotel for merchants and visitors from foreign lands. It is said that the hotel could accommodate hundreds of guests. Merchant ships of foreign countries were always on the Ryesung river, the important trade route of the times.

Kaesong was one of the most flourishing international cities in the 11th century. And the Ryesung was a famous trade route.

Koryu was a trade centre in all aspects. Even when Sung and Japan had no trade relations, Japan could get, through Koryu, books of Sung, and Sung secured sulphur, copper from Japan.

Thus Koryu played an important role in material, cultural, and technical interchange among eastern

countries.

\* \* \*

In the 13th century Koryu was invaded by Mongolia from north. In 1231 tens of thousands of Mongolians advanced as far as near Pyongyang.

The rulers of Koryu did not pay attention to defence, fighting for power. But the Koryu army and people repulsed the Mongolians by waging a heroic struggle.

In 1232, the Mongolians invaded Koryu again. Although the ruling class took refuge in Kanghwa island, the Koryu people offered resistance. It was said that an old Mongolian soldier remarked: "I experienced

many wars, but I've never seen such a heroic people".

The severe war with Mongolia lasted some 40 years. Yet, the invaders could not make the people of Koryu yield.

In 1270, they had to agree to peaceful state relations with Koryu.

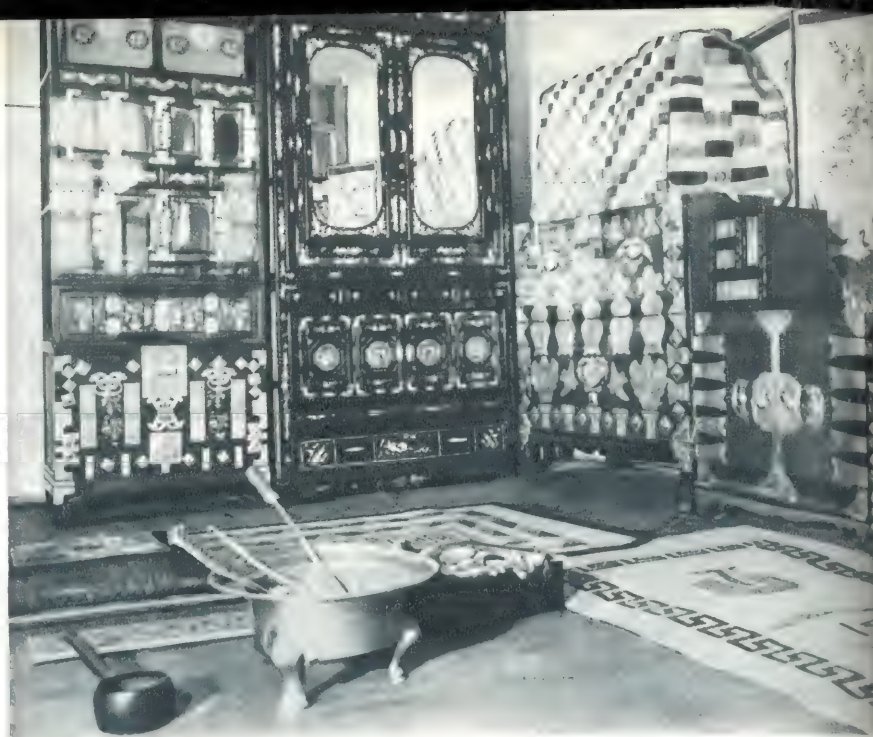
It was the first time for Yen to agree to such relations with foreign countries, as they never recognized other country's independence. Nor did they maintain peaceful relations with others.

They tried to interfere in the internal affairs of Koryu. But the Koryu dynasty always successfully rejected all these evil moves and guarded jealously its independence.





# THE FOLK MUSEUM



Furniture and home articles in a living room of a Korean home

ONE interested in the folk-custom and culture of the Korean people is recommended to visit the Folk Museum in Pyongyang, where are on exhibit a great number of relics and materials on the way of life of the Korean people, their manners, customs, and culture that have come into being through their long history.

In Exhibition Hall No.1, one can witness the development of Korean dress. On display are costumes of different ages, from the Koguryu Kingdom of the 4th century to the early 20th century.

Ordinary dresses, ceremonial garments, officials' garb are exhibited.

The delicately coloured and embroidered children's and women's dresses of the 18th and 20th centuries are particularly attractive.

Exhibition Hall No.2 shows furniture and interior decorations of the Korean homes. From these, one can see the outstanding craftsmanship and creative arts of the Korean people.

Old furniture which were used for the living room and drawing room 200 to 300 years ago make one picture the mode of life of the ancestors of the land.

Among the many handicraft works—various boxes, chests of drawers, mirror-stands and sta-

Various kinds of head-pieces and personal ornaments for men



Child's costume



A wedding gown



The feast for a child who is celebrating the first birthday

tionery cases—particularly the large pearl-inlaid chest drawers draw admiration of the visitors.

The pearl-inlaid work developed early in our country, some 1,500 years ago during the Silla period. Many such works were exported to Japan and other countries.

## Exhibition Hall 3.

Here are exhibited earthenware of the Silla dynasty of the 4th and 5th centuries and the world-famous porcelain of Koryu in addition to wooden ware, dining tables of the different periods. From these, one can have a fair knowledge about the eating habits of the Korean people.

The "Chilchupbansanggi" (one of the old standard sets of Korean dishes) and "Shinsunro" (cooking utensil to be used at the table) attract much attention of the visitors.

The exquisite Koryu celadon porcelain of the 11th and 12th centuries still command admiration of all. Its graceful designs of cloud, crane, willow, wild goose, lotus flower, etc. are still fresh transcending the flow of time.

Beautiful white porcelain of the Li dynasty are on display here too.

In Exhibition Hall No. 4 are some 80 relics which show Korea's farming, fishery through its long history.

On display are a picture of rice grains dug out of the shell-heap mound in Hoihyun in Kimhai, and materials showing the 2,094-metre long "Byukkoljui" irrigation channel constructed around 330 A.D.

All the items on exhibit testify that a practice of working together and helping each other prevailed throughout the history.

According to old records, at the beginning of the Li dynasty peasants of a village worked together in the busy farming seasons.

Every one who visits the museum will see the long traditions of the Korean people's life and their peaceful folk-customs.

Jeweleries and articles for personal adornment for women



A dining-table







## KOREA'S SUCCESSES MERIT ADMIRATION

HELENE LEGRADI

SOME time ago Secretary Dr. Helene Legradi of the East-West Trade Promotion Bureau of Austria visited Korea.

During her stay in Korea, she had contacts with many trade workers of Korea and exchanged views on the matters of common concern in trade. She visited Pyongyang and local towns and villages, factories and cultural establishments.

The following is what she said about her visit.

"The object of my current visit to Korea is to find possibilities of further developing trade between Austria and Korea.

"I've had many opportunities of inspecting the construction undertakings in many countries. I have got accustomed to seeing things with a critical but unbiased eye. Korea's successes in the construction work merit admiration.

"The first things which caught my attention when I was in Korea by train, were the arachnoid high voltage cables

stretching across fields and hills, and irrigation channels running over the well-arranged fields as evenly as the blood-vessels in the human body. Modern houses in both town and country were all new ones. I could see big factories and mills everywhere I went.

"All these successes are the outcome of the combination of Premier Kim Il Sung's brilliant leadership and the Korean people's tremendous ardour.

"The industrious and talented people of Korea have built a powerful industry in their

country. Korea is unwaveringly marching ahead along the right road she has chosen.

"Until my visit to Korea I had not been well informed of this. This is little known to Austrians. Their knowledge of Korea, if any, is that Korea is engaged in some construction.

"I believe that there is an ample prospect for the development of trade between our two countries. The point is that we should have a good understanding of each other. I will do my best to make Austrians have a due understanding of Korea."

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## U.S. "WORLD STRATEGY" AND JAPAN

THE role of Japanese militarism is assuming a greater importance in the postwar U.S. plan for world domination.

This can be seen, first of all, in the "South Korea-Japan treaty," the Sato government's all-out assistance to the U.S. war of aggression on Vietnam, and the step-up of Japan's backing to Washington's containment policy against the socialist countries of Asia, to U.S. schemes against the people's struggle for national liberation, and to its general war policy.

It is, therefore, not fortuitous for the United States to praise Japanese militarism. Japan, according to the U.S., is "one of the three pillars of the free world."

Japanese militarism is a trump card for the Pentagon, whose all attention is focussed on Asia. The Pentagon is bent on escalating its aggression on Asia, particularly on Vietnam, for which it is mapping out a detailed plan.

U.S. Vice-President Humphrey who toured the areas of Asia with a view to making preparations for the further escalation of the Vietnam war, openly declared that "the United States needs Japan" for the execution of its aggressive designs.

Attention must be drawn to the fact that Washington has always attached weighty importance to Japanese militarism in laying down its plans of aggression. This became more apparent in the postwar years. Japan's geological position and military and economic potential added importance all the more as Washington began to take the dangerous path to world domination.

It is the Pentagon's appraisal of Japan's strategic "value;" the United States cannot display its strength in the Far East, 6,000-8,000 miles away from the continental U.S., and Japan should become the firm rear for the U.S. in all its undertakings in the Far East.

From this the revival and rearmament of Japanese militarism was inevitable as far as Washington was concerned if it was to carry through the plan for world domination. And after the Second World War Washington undertook the job of revitalizing Japanese militarism in five stages.

The first period covers up to the time of the out-

break of the Korean war.

The U.S. policy of this period can be characterized as "atomic bomb diplomacy," "dollar diplomacy," "Truman doctrine," and "Marshall plan". Washington saw, first of all, bringing all small nations under its control for world domination. It was in this period that the United States occupied South Korea and Taiwan, then it tried desperately to check the great advance of the revolutionary forces on the Asian continent, and set to turn Japan into its "breakwater" against the rising tide of communism.

And the fact that the U.S. was the sole occupation power after World War II, made things easier for them in Japan. It put under its wing the remnants of Japanese militarism who should have been tried, and installed them with power.

Along with this, the United States busily set up semi-military apparatuses in Japan under various names—the economic police, railway police, railway patrol corps, fire-brigade, coastal defence agency, etc. And all this was a shot in the arm for Japanese militarism. The U.S. did very little to dissolve Japanese monopolies, the economic foundation of Japanese militarism. On the contrary, it protected them in every way. Soon 850 large factories were given to them. Between 1945 and 1951 the U.S. imperialists supplied Japanese Zaibatsu with 1,958,000,000 dollars to nourish it.

The Korean war can be called the second period, a period of "positions of strength" and hot war. The three-year Korean war was an immediate outcome of the U.S. policy of this period. It was the first U.S. war against the socialist countries.

In the Korean war (1950-1953) the United States took full advantage of the strategic "value" of Japan.

To begin with, the geological position and economic potential of Japan were beneficial to the U.S. for the execution of the Korean war. The Japanese islands became a "safe air base" and a supply centre for the U.S.

Then the Japanese monopolies supplied 2,470,000,000 dollars' worth of combat materials to the U.S. army to help it wage war of aggression on Korea. In the



meantime, Washington's large war contracts were a heaven-sent tonic for Japanese Zaibatsu which was on the rise again. No wonder a report on the U.S. foreign policy on June 22, 1955, pointed out that it was amply proved Japan was very useful not only as a U.S. air base but also a supply base in the Korean war.

The United States concluded the separate peace treaty with Japan and Japan-U.S. Security Pact in 1951 so as to accelerate the revival and rearmament of Japanese militarism, taking advantage of the Korean war. With the conclusion of the "peace treaty", Japan was no more the vanquished. This facilitated all the more revival and rearmament of Japanese militarism. Now the United States was guaranteed of the Japanese territory as its "Far Eastern bastion." The San Francisco peace treaty and Japan-U.S. Security Pact enabled the Japanese government to organize the coastal defence corps and "defence agency" in 1952. Then came the defence corps comprising ground, sea, and air forces. The new corps was an amalgamation of the police force (that came into being in 1950) and the coastal defence corps. The Pentagon rushed to provide the reviving Japanese military forces with guns, tanks, warships, and all other military needs. Then it also trained the Japanese military forces.

The third period is the period of the Eisenhower Administration after the Korean war, "liberation" and "mass retaliation" was Washington's war cry

during this period.

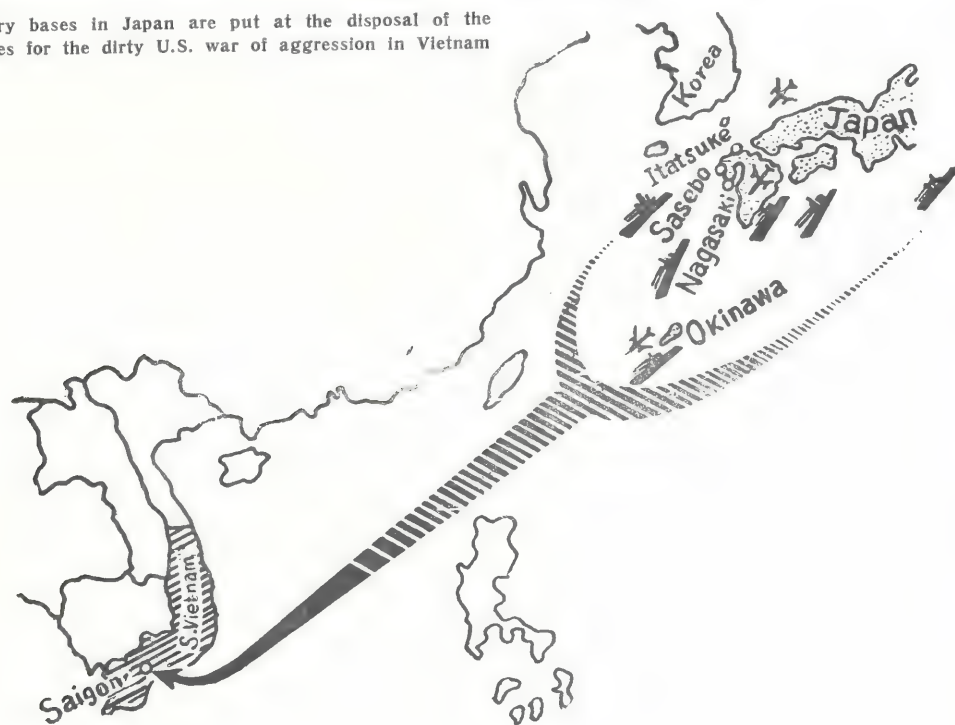
It was during this period that the Eisenhower-Dulles Administration shipped out new-type weapons to such outpost bases as South Korea and Taiwan, and made South Vietnam a new bridgehead for Washington. Particularly, the United States started converting its military bases in Okinawa, Guam, and the Philippines into nuclear missile bases.

At the same time, the U.S. imperialists openly advocated the "northeast Asia military alliance" in an attempt to speedily change the balance of power in Asia, which kept deteriorating for them. For the projected military alliance Japan's rearmament was stepped up further so that it would become the central force of the alliance.

In 1954, "Japan-U.S. agreement on mutual defence and aid" and "agreement on chartering naval vessels" were concluded. Then the "defence agency" and U.S.-Japan joint staff council were set up. Japan organized a "self-defence air force", subsequently, reorganizing the "defence corps" into the "self defence forces" with the ground, naval, and air forces.

Thus the revival of the armed forces of Japanese militarism has been rounded off into a regular army, only it was not given the name. In 1956 the "national defence council" came into being, which in the following year made its "first line of national defence" known. It stated that "it would gradually build up an efficient defence force based on the Japan-U.S. security system."

Military bases in Japan are put at the disposal of the Yankees for the dirty U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam



Since then the armament of the "self defence forces" has been greatly accelerated.

"Flexible" stood for the policy of U.S. imperialism in its endeavors for rearming Japan in the next—the fourth—period (the time of the Kennedy Administration).

U.S. imperialism unleashed the "special war" in South Vietnam while stepping up preparations for local wars and nuclear wars in the Pacific regions centering around Japan. Moreover, the U.S. strategists mapped out a more concrete plan for aggression. Under the plan, the U.S. air and naval forces equipped with nuclear and missile weapons will be the main striking force while the troops of South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, South Vietnam, and Thailand with Japan as its core being an attacking force under U.S. command. This was a most vicious plan in line with their set policy for "making Asians fight Asians."

With this in view, the United States, having concluded a new Japan-U.S. "Security Pact" in 1960, placed nuclear-equipped planes and warships in Itazuke, Yokosuka, and a number of other bases in Japan and reinforced Okinawa and Guam as strategic bases for nuclear war.

Furthermore, they introduced atomic weapons into South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan. Then the Washington government strengthened the U.S.-Japan joint operation system which has been worked out anticipating the dispatch of the "Japanese self defence force" overseas and equipping the Japanese military forces with nuclear missiles.

Meanwhile, with the rearmament of the Japanese "self defence force" being pressed on in real earnest, the Japanese monopolies are working to produce more weapons and other combat materials. It is their plan to modernize the "self defence force" with Japanese weapons, which will be also sent to the puppet troops of South Korea, Taiwan, and South Vietnam, and even to the U.S. troops stationed in the areas of Asia.

In accordance with the Japan-U.S. security system, Japan has been further converted into a big munition plant for U.S. war and aggression.

Wielding the "big stick," the Johnson Administration has put forth the war escalation as the main vehicle for its policy of aggression and war.

By bringing the 14-year-old "South Korea-Japan talks" to a conclusion, the U.S. imperialists welded together the Japanese militarists and the South Korean puppet clique. This is to be one of the important links in setting up the U.S. sponsored "northeast Asia military alliance". Then Washington is demanding

Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, New Zealand, Thailand, and Australia to provide more aid to its war of aggression on Vietnam.

Meanwhile, the Johnson Administration is working hard for an aggressive military alliance in the Pacific region by rounding up the military forces of its puppets in Asia so as to use them more effectively in the aggressive wars. This is more important to Washington at this time when SEATO exists only in



Mechanized units of Japan

The Japanese ground defence corps go through a rigid training





name. Particularly, the United States in accordance with its policy for "making Asians fight Asians", is scheming to drag out its mercenary troops including the South Korean puppet troops into the Vietnam war and use in real earnest the Japanese army for its war and aggression in Asia.

The Japanese militarists are expressing their readiness to actively co-operate with the U.S. war of aggression in South Vietnam.

At present, the Japanese monopolies are supplying the U.S. army with various military goods, such as, rifles, napalm bombs, and military trucks for a jungle war.

The amount of supply of such military goods is rapidly growing. In April last year, for instance, it increased about 80 times over the previous month.

This is not all. The Japanese militarists, at the request of the United States which is escalating the Vietnam War, are reinforcing the military strength while rushing with war preparations.

Japanese militarism revived and rearmed by the United States, is working frenziedly to make its old dream of "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" come true—the dream which they dreamed at the time of World War II, the dream about the conquest of whole Asia.

This can be seen clearly in the plan "Operation Three Arrows", and the plan "Operation Flying Dragon". These secret plans have been mapped out by the Japanese militarists; they call for dispatch of the "Self Defence Force of Japan" to North Korea and the Asian continent under the command of the U.S. army, in case U.S. decides to launch a new war in Asia.

The Sato Government of Japan, at the bidding of Washington, decided to start this year, one year earlier than originally scheduled, the "Third Five-Year Plan for Adjustment of Defence Force". Its goal is to "build up a strong Self Defence Force" able to wage not only local wars but a total nuclear war as well.

During this period the Japanese Self Defence Force is to have a guided missile battalion, and its air and naval forces, too, will be equipped with various types of missiles.

All these show that Japanese militarism, revived and nursed by U.S. imperialism, is once again appearing as a vicious foe of peace and independence of all nations.

# Hye Cho and His Travels

DONG KEUN HOON

It is no exaggeration to say that the role of travellers is, by no means, a small one for the development of human history and culture. Korea's Hye Cho of the early 8th century is one that can be termed as such a traveller.

He lived in the period when the Korean peninsula was under the rule of Silla that unified the land and established a feudal system. Its economy thrived and culture flourished. History, astronomy, medicine, architecture, literature, and the arts made leaping progress.

Hye Cho went to Changan, the then capital of China, to study Buddhism. There he compiled some Buddhist books, and mastered Sanscrit and Chinese.

However, knowledge of Buddhism from the books could not satisfy fully the inquisitive heart of his. And he decided he would go to India and see things for himself. Thus early in the 8th century, he left Changan for Kwangchow, a Chinese trade centre.

Taking a ship at Kwangchow he headed for Palembang on Sumatra Island. Then he crossed the straits to reach the western coast of the Malay Peninsula, from where he proceeded to Great Nicobar, and eventually reached the mouth of the Ganges.

Once he set his foot on the soil of India, he toured the eastern, central, southern, western, and northern parts of the sub-continent.

He left his footprints on the soil where Sakya was born and died, and Buddhist temples. Then he was in Kashmir to enter Pakistan crossing the Indus River and went to the area of the present-day Kabul via Gilgit of today. After an extensive tour through various parts of Afghanistan, he went westward through Central Asia. His travel carried him to Persia, then to Arabia of the Omayyads, knocking at the eastern frontier of the East Roman Empire.

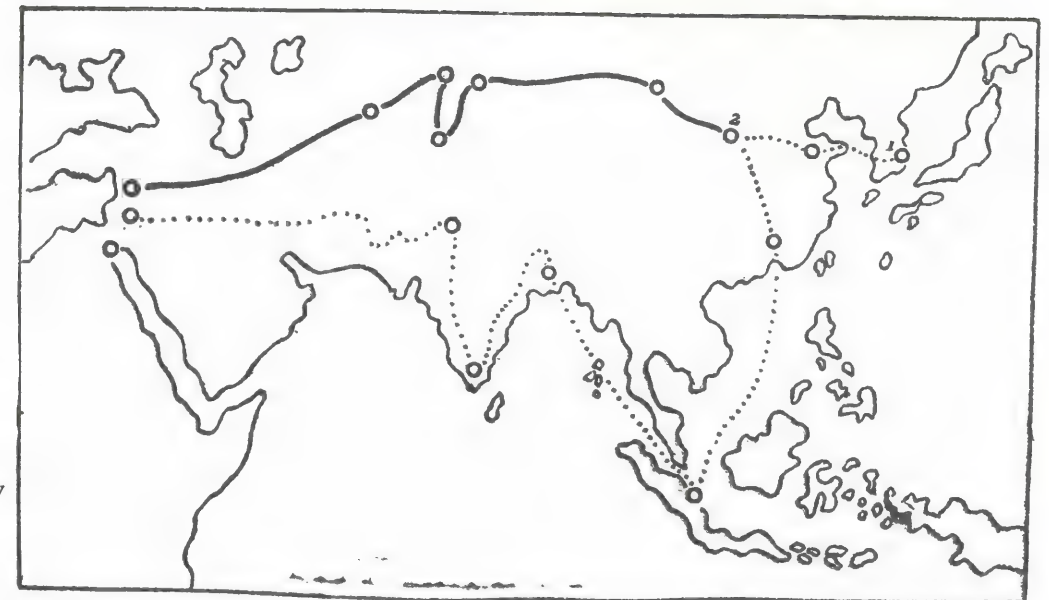
According to his travelog, it was there he turned around.

His eastward journey to home, however, took a different course than he had taken. He visited different parts of Central Asia; he scaled the Pamirs to get Kashgar of China, an important East-West link.

## Legend

1. Kyungjoo  
(capital of Silla)
2. Changan  
(capital of Tang)

.....  
His westward journey  
—————  
Returning route



Crossing the desert of some 1,600 km. long, he arrived at Kuche in 727, eventually at Changan via Dunhuang. His journey took altogether ten years, and he covered no less than 40,000 kilometres.

Through this long trip, he did not limit himself to seeing different worlds and to the study of Buddhism. Everywhere he inspected carefully the natural and geographical features, social systems, the peoples and their languages, customs and habits, religious beliefs. His long journey of different lands deepened his love toward his motherland. And he did not neglect to compare what he had seen and felt with his country.

And when he returned he wrote "Travels in India" in three volumes.

His long-lost travel book was excavated in 1909, but it missed the beginning, closing, and some other parts. Yet, it was enough to tell about the valuable trip that Hye Cho had made and his literary talents.

His pen gave a glimpse of social and economic systems, cultures, and geographical features of India, and countries of Central Asia of the early 8th century.

It must be mentioned that in the early 7th century, other monks of Silla—Ariya Balma, Hye Yup, Hyun Tai, Koo Bon, Hyun Kak, Hye Ryoon, Hyun Yoo—made journeys to India, but, most of them died on the way, leaving no records of their travels.

It is interesting even today to read Hye Cho's travels.

Here are a few extracts on some countries from his "Travels."

The following is his chapters on Central India.  
"...I arrived at the thickly populated town in Central India where there was a royal castle. I was told the king had 900 elephants, and other nobles possessed 200-300 of such animals.

"There are much similarities in costume, languages, customs, and social systems of the various areas of India, except the southern part.

"As to laws of India, there are neither implements of punishment nor jail. The accused are fined in ac-

cordance with the gravity of the offence. No flogging, nor execution. No one, the king down to the humble man, hunts with a hawk or a dog. There are found thieves sometimes, but they neither violate nor kill the people. They, I was told, only take belongings of others. People knew no forced labour, nor taxation. Only each tributes 5 packs of grain from his land, for which the king sends men to bring to the palace. The majority are poor, but few rich.

"When the king is in his seat, a conference of chieftains and folk takes place before the throne. And there is much quarrelling. But the king is always composed. Having patiently listened to them, the king proclaims good from wrong. Then no one raises objections to him.

"In January, I found myself in Persia. The Persians wear woollen coats, and their heads and beards are shaven. They eat only bread and meats. Even from rice, they make bread. Camels, donkeys, sheep, horses, woollen goods, and treasures are much in the land. Their tongue is peculiar from other nations, they are a people of mild nature. They say their boats sail to Ceylon, an island rich in treasures, then to Kwangchow of China to get silks and cotton fabrics..."

These are some of Hye Cho's observations in Persia.

From Persia, according to his book, he travelled northward some ten days to reach a country. About the land, he wrote:

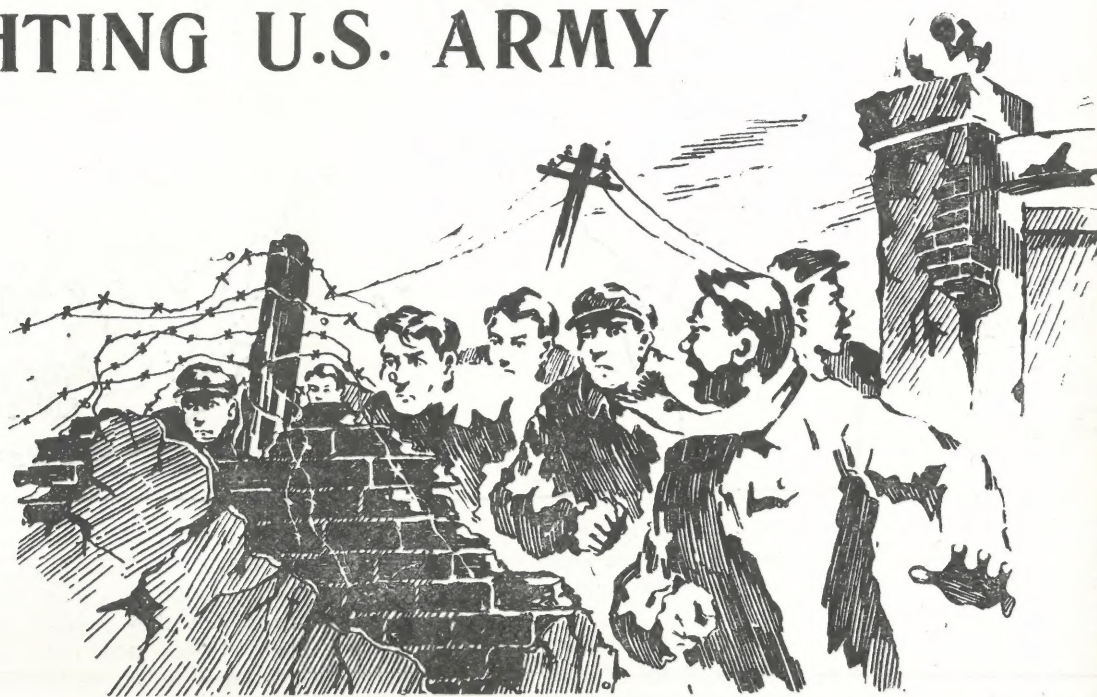
"People wear fine woollen clothes. Their upper-garment is a rather full one, over which they wear a vest. No difference is to be noted in costume between the king and the common people. Women wear loose blouses. Men have their hair tonsured but wear beard, women keep their hair.

"About their eating habits, food is put in a bowl and people eat from it with fingers. Such practice is common to the poor and rich. They said anyone who hunted an animal by himself would become very rich..."

Thus Hye Cho was a keen observer and his pen was very penetrating. However, he was not a simple



# SOUTH KOREAN WORKERS FIGHTING U.S. ARMY



SOME time ago, over 1,100 workers of the "South Korean service corps" hired by the U.S. army in Pajoo, went on a strike demanding an end to humiliation and persecution of South Koreans by the U.S. army.

The workers, who have been fighting some time for better living conditions and democratic rights, rose up in a mass strike in protest against the dismissal of several Korean workers.

The South Korean service corps workers put down their tools and demonstrated. They marched on toward the 2nd U.S. Infantry Division, carrying the placards which condemned the U.S. army authorities.

The U.S. army authorities, however, ordered over 90 soldiers, including 40 M.P.s, to fire tear bombs at the demonstrators and bayonet

them, wounding eight workers severely.

Infuriated by this, all the South Korean workers in Pajoo went on a sympathy strike for an indefinite period. This evoked much sympathy of all the workers employed by the U.S. army throughout South Korea.

## NATIONAL INDIGNATION

About 35,000 workers are working for the U.S. occupation army in South Korea.

They are building military bases, military roads and bridges, and some public works. Some of them are cooks, laundry men, cleaners, then some do odd-jobs.

They are forced to work 12-16 hours a day on the average, the stevedores sometimes work as much as 24 hours!

Though the Americans drive them like cattle, they pay the workers even less than the minimum living cost.

Seven hundred Korean workers who are working in the officers' quarters of the U.S. 8th Army are paid 2,000-4,000 won a month, less than one-quarter of the minimum living cost. (At present, in South Korea a family of five or six needs 12,000 won a month at minimum to live on.)

The Korean workers hired by the U.S. army units do not have even elementary democratic rights. The U.S. army authorities do not recognize even the rudimentary rights of the workers—the rights to strike and collective bargaining. It is stated that those individuals who are needed for carrying out U.S. war policies can not strike.

recorder of what he had seen and experienced. He always expressed his personal views judging good from bad.

It was his observation that even in the countries of Buddhism there was a wide gap between the poor and the rich, and numerous is the poor while the number of the rich being only few.

All through his long journey through different

lands, his book testifies he longed always for his homeland. Expressions of his deep love for the homeland are numerous.

His book is a precious historical book of Korea.

His observations are objective, precise, and vivid; and the book is a very important source of historical data. Hye Cho's book—the oldest travels so far found in Korea—is treasured by the Korean people.

Then household help and private help are not to have trade unions. The Korean workers are even prohibited to converse in Korean in the U.S. army barracks.

American soldiers beat up Korean workers and discharged them because the Koreans ate their lunch in the American's mess hall. Korean workers are violated and shot when they refuse to follow American's orders.

So humiliated and maltreated, the Korean workers working for the U.S. army in South Korea are gradually awakening to national and class conscience. Now they are fighting against the U.S. aggressors.

## THE FIGHT GETS INTENSE

In the spring of 1963, 18,000 South Korean workers employed by the U.S. 8th Army authorities waged a resolute struggle when the Americans discharged 300 workers and threatened to discharge another 300. In the same year, 360 Korean workers working for the U.S. 4th Guided Missiles Headquarters fought in protest against maltreatment and exploitation.

In summer 1964, some 8,000 workers in the Boopyung area held a meeting and demonstrated against the U.S. 8th Army which intended to discharge Korean workers in large numbers.

Towards the end of last year, 3,700 Korean workers in the Euijungbo area, Kyunggi Province, working for the U.S. 8th Army demanded the U.S. commander that he should recognize the workers' rights to trade union, and institute a bonus and severance pay system.

In order to carry their demands through, the workers formed a "strike committee" and waged a mass struggle.

And from the beginning of 1966 the workers working for the U.S. army stationed in the Boopyung area went on a hunger-strike in protest against the humiliating treatment and demanding better living conditions. When the Yankees used weapons against them, the South Korean workers fought throwing stones at them.

In response to their struggle, 5,500 Korean service workers under



Enraged by the dismissal of 800 South Korean workers by the U.S. engineer corps in Euijungbo, Kyunggi Province, the workers held demonstrations

the U.S. army, too, rose up in the struggle putting up placards bearing the words: "We demand an immediate wage hike and progressive severance allowances."

The number of labour disputes between the South Korean workers and the U.S. occupation army in 1965 almost doubled over 1964, the number of the workers who took part in the struggle were 30 per cent of the total workers who participated in strikes and demonstrations in 1965.

When the above-mentioned bloody event took place in the Pajoo area, all the workers throughout South Korea, including the Seoul and Incheon areas, held protest meetings. They put up such demands: "The U.S. government, immediately repeal the anti-democratic and extraterritorial labour law!"

The South Korean workers are directing the spearhead of their struggle at the American imperialists. They are opposed to national discrimination and humiliation and demanding the right to form trade unions. Thus they came out with political demands as well.

And, it must be added, this is the logical step for the South Korean

The number of jobless people flocking into the employment agency keeps rising day by day





workers to take in their fight against U.S. policy of aggression and enslavement. Moreover, all indications show the fight will go on.

### THE FIGHT GOES ON

With the American brutality against the Korean workers in Pajoo as a momentum, the indignation of the South Korean workers and the people burst into a violent storm. Such being the situation, the U.S.-Pak clique began to take deceptive measures for misleading the people.

The U.S. army authorities tried to deceive the workers, saying that they would reinstate the discharged workers, apologize for its outrages against the demonstrating workers, and pay the medical expenses for the wounded workers.

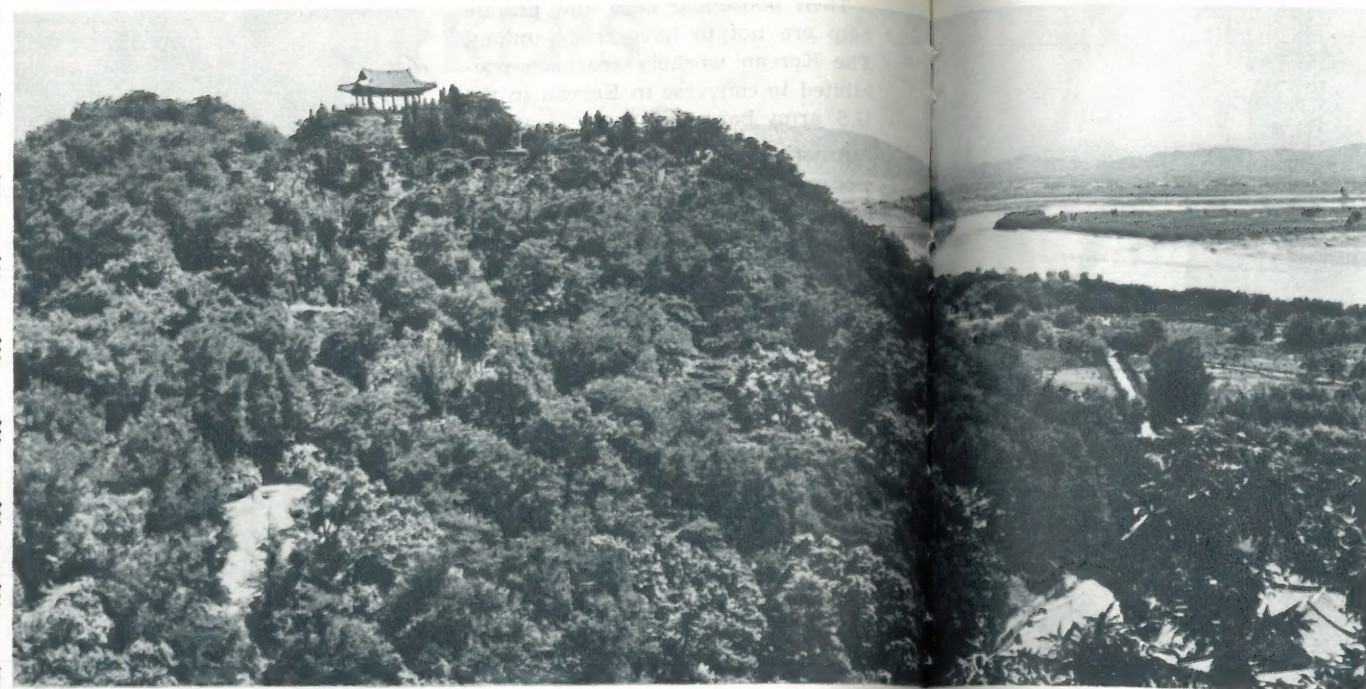
With such a deceptive policy, the American imperialists are egging on the Pak Jung Hi clique to suppress the South Korean workers.

The Pak Jung Hi clique attempting to shield U.S. atrocities from condemnation, arrest and imprison the workers. They are even expressing regret to the U.S. imperialists saying "we are sorry that there were demonstrations!" Thus they are revealing all the more their traitorous nature.

In the meantime, the Pak Jung Hi clique are scheming to deceive the South Korean people, stating that there would be no more atrocities by the U.S. army if the "negotiated South Korea-U.S. status of forces agreement" is concluded. However, to all intents and purposes the "agreement" is designed to protect U.S. atrocities and U.S. rule and exploitation, to "legalize" the U.S. occupation of South Korea. It is a document infringing upon national dignity and independence.

As a matter of fact, there could be no equal agreement or treaty between the master and the servant. Only there can be relations of the ruler and the ruled between them.

So long as the United States, the architect of neo-colonialism, remains in South Korea, the South Korean workers and people will continue to fight. And their struggle will get more resolute.



The lovely Moranbong Hill draws many visitors every day

## MORANBONG HILL

**M**ORANBONG is a name of a hill on the Daidong river flowing in the centre of Pyongyang. The name came from the shape of the hill as the whole hill presents a moran (peony) in full bloom.

From the crest of the hill, one can command a view of the Daidong which washes its foot and the drooping willow-covered Reungra Island floating. Then across the river unfolds East Pyongyang—numerous buildings, then fields yonder.

The wall of the hill facing the river is a precipice of mossy rocks, which has been called Chungryoo-byuk (the cliff of blue water).

A road hidden among the trees stretches along the Daidong to the hill, providing the citizens with a good escape from the summer heat.

There are Youth Park with an open-air theatre, and the Moranbong theatre, built after the war.

A broad avenue runs to the Grand Theatre through the heart of Pyongyang.

Youth Park was built where once shacks crowded.

When the whole nation rose up in the postwar reconstruction, the youths and students built this park. Their enthusiasm and devotion were something to be admired. The dwellers of the old shacks moved to new flats.

There is a waterfall running down from a bluff and flowing through the park. A 12,000-seat open-air theatre stands near the rose of Sharon shaped fountain.

The Moranbong theatre, an elegant structure of traditional Korean architecture, is seen in the shade of trees.

Then there is the underground theatre which was built taking only three months by the Pyongyang citizens while the war was raging in full fury.

Despite the savage enemy bombing art performances were given at this theatre, deep in the bosom of the earth, inspiring the people

to victory in the war.

The Chullima statue, a symbol of today's Korea—the progressing Korea, is flying in the air to the south. The 70,000-seat Moranbong stadium is situated at the foot to the west, and Kim Il Sung University to the north.

From the hill extend high stone walls, which, according to historical records, were built in the late sixth century.

The Koguryu dynasty—one of the old kingdoms of Korea, which was set up around the first century B.C.—made its capital near Mt. Daisung (now the Daisungsan park in Pyongyang), moving it to Pyongyang in the late fourth century. Since then the walls were rebuilt several times, which extend some 16 kilometres.

On Sangsang peak stands the Eulmildai Pavilion. From here one can have a full view of Pyongyang.

Many old records speak of Eulmildai having been a favorite place of the people. Moreover, it was a fortress, too, against the invaders.

In May, 1931 when the workers of the Pyongyang rubber goods factory had a strike against Japanese colonial rule, it was there that the workers gathered and renewed their determination to fight. It is said that Kang Joo Ryong, one of the woman workers, made a speech for nine hours standing on the roof.

It is said that the Boobyukroo Pavilion overlooking the river was

built in the late fourth century. The present building is the one that was restored in 1614; it was rebuilt on several occasions.

In the battle against the invading hordes of Hideyoshi from Japan in the late sixteenth century, the Boobyukroo Pavilion was also a commanding post for defending the Pyongyang Walls. (At that time the walls were divided into four parts.)

There are also the Chungryoo Pavilion, Chilsungmoon Gate, Hyunmoomoon Gate, Junkeummoon Gate, Choiseungdai Pavilion, the liberation monument, the friendship monument, and other historical remains on the hill.

The State Museum of History is situated near the Eulmildai Pavilion.

Historical and cultural remains of the Korean nation, from the primi-

tive age to the first half of the nineteenth century are on display here. Over 200,000 visit the museum every year.

Moranbong Hill was ruined by the Americans during the war. They dropped numerous bombs and burned the hill. Yet they could not erase beauty of Moranbong.

After the war it was reconstructed more beautifully.

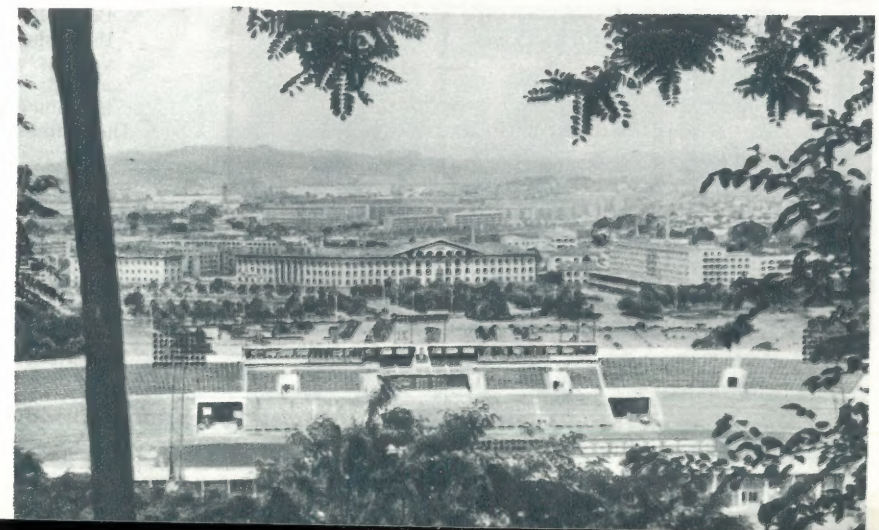
Many pleasure grounds and a botanic garden are to be found here, and it is a favourite recreation ground for the citizens of Pyongyang. On Sundays and holidays, many citizens come to enjoy the day here.

Through all ages many poets and painters sang and praised beautiful Nature of Moranbong.

The Eulmildai Pavilion, a battlement of the inner Pyongyang Walls, stands on the foundation rebuilt in 1714. In the Korean war the pavilion was mercilessly bombed by the U.S. air pirates, but it was rebuilt after the ceasefire



At the foot of the hill is a stadium seating 70,000





## A TREE FROM HEIGHT 1211

THE above photo shows a tree trunk on display at the Memorial of the Patriotic War of Liberation. The tree is from Height 1211, known to the American aggressors as the Heartbreak Ridge, in the east part of the waist of our country.

Scorched and broken by shells and bombs, the tree bears 131 marks of splinters and shells.

Even from it, one can judge how severe the battle was on Height 1211.

In the first year of the Korean War alone, the U.S. aggressors suffered some 598,000 casualties. And they were desperate to recover from the miserable defeat.

It was for this reason that Ridgway, the notorious U.S. General and Commander of the "U.N. Forces", staged his "Summer and Autumn Offensives" in 1951.

The spearhead of the "Offensives" was turned to Height 1211 because it was a strategic point linking the eastern and the central parts of the front.

Boasting the most concentrated bombing and bombardment, the enemy sent more than 30,000 bombs and shells every day to the height. And, in parallel with this, they attempted to take the height—they sent one wave of their men after another—over 10 times a day on

an average.

The untrodden virgin forest was soon wrapped in the sea of flames; and boulders were powdered.

Enemy bombs lowered the height of the peak nearly three metres.

Our fighters of the People's Army nevertheless stood firmly and did not budge even a step. "Death to the Yankees!" and "No place to step back!" were their slogans.

When they were run out of bullets and hand-grenades, they fought hand-to-hand fights with the swarming enemies, they took away enemy's weapons, they even had to use rocks when they had no weapon.

In the defence battle of the height, many heroes of the Republic emerged. Li Soo Bok, a squad leader, was one of them. He flung himself over the muzzle of an enemy's heavy machine-gun at a decisive moment to save his comrades from danger and ensure their advance.

Our people call this height the "Heroes' Height" or "Height of Phoenixes". As said above, this was the Heartbreak Ridge for the American aggressors.

The enemy suffered miserably here, too. They lost more than 79,000 men and officers in their repeated attacks, over 430 times.

They named this height "Heart-



A tree from Height 1211, preserved at the Memorial of the Patriotic War of Liberation. It speaks of how fierce the battle for defending Height 1211 was

break Height", for their hearts broke whenever they looked at it. And, the valley of the height was named by them "Punch Bowl" because none of their men who entered there could come out alive.

## Stamps of Korea

In December, 1965 the Ministry of Communications of D.P.R.K. issued two series of stamps on boats and sericulture.

### SHIPS

Many new ships are being built in our country. Among them are the all-purpose fishing boat and service boat which are widely used in fishing.

Stamp 1: All-Purpose Fishing Boat, 10 jun. This boat is equipped with dragnets, trawls, and purse seines. It can also be used for whaling. Stamp 2: Service Boat, 10 jun. This boat is providing conveniences for the fishermen on the sea. It is equipped also with various recreational facilities. Sometimes it is used as a transport to carry fish. It is installed also with equipment for boat repairs.

The stamps measure 23×35 mm. Engraved.

### SERICULTURE

Korea's climate is suitable for sericulture, which has a long history in our country. Recently it is making leaping progress as more co-op farms raise silk worms.

Stamp 1: Indoor Silkworm (*Bombyx Mori*), 2 jun. Stamp 2: Caster-bean Silkworm (*Philosmia Cynthia Ricini*), 10 jun. Stamp 3: Tussah Silkworm (*Antheraea Pernyi*), 10 jun.

The stamps measure 37×23 mm. Engraved.



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